

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 18.11.2010
ANSWERED ON
FUNDS FOR URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMMES

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SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government is aware that 25 per cent of the urban population lives below poverty line in the country;
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (c) the details of the various poverty alleviation programmes undertaken for improving condition of the urban poor; and
- (d) the details of the funds made available and utilized under these poverty alleviation programmes during the last three years and other measures taken to reduce the urban poverty?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION

(KUMARI SELJA)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 123 FOR 18-11-2010 REGARDING FUNDS FOR URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMMES.

(a) & (b): Planning Commission releases estimates of urban poor from time to time based on the national sample survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). As per the latest such estimates of NSSO (61st Round) for the year 2004-2005, based on the Uniform Recall Period (URP) method, the estimated number of urban poor is 80.8 million which is 25.7% of the urban population of the country.

(c): With a view to ameliorate the living conditions of the urban poor, the Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation has been implementing an employment oriented Urban Poverty Alleviation Centrally sponsored scheme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), on all India basis, since 1.12.1997. The scheme, revised in 2009, strives to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed and under employed poor, through provision of training for skill development and encouraging the setting up of employment ventures by the urban poor living below the poverty line. It has the following components:

(i) Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP) - targets individual urban poor for setting up of micro-enterprises,

(ii) Urban Women Self-help Programme (UWSP) - targets urban poor women self-help groups for setting up of group-enterprises and providing them assistance through a revolving fund for thrift & credit activities.

(iii) Skill Training for Employment Promotion amongst Urban Poor (STEP-UP)- targets urban poor for imparting quality training so as to enhance their employability for self-employment or better salaried employment.

(iv) Urban Wage Employment Programme (UWEP)- seeks to assist urban poor by utilizing their labour for the construction of socially and economically useful public assets, in towns having population less than 5 lakhs as per 1991 census, and.

(v) Urban Community Development Network (UCDN)- seeks to assist the urban poor in organizing themselves in self-managed community structures so as to gain collective strength to address the issues of poverty facing them and participate in the effective implementation of urban poverty alleviation programmes.

(d): Central funds released and expenditure reported under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), during the last three years are given at Annexure.

In order to address the other facets of poverty, this Ministry has been implementing since 2005, the Sub-

Mission of Basic Services for Urban Poor (BSUP) under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), catering to 65 identified Cities, and Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP), in cities / towns other than the 65 identified cities. These programmes are aimed at providing basic amenities viz. water, sanitation, primary health, primary education and social security, with decent shelter and security of tenure to slum dwellers.