GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN AFFAIRS LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1768 TO BE ANSWERED ON JULY 29, 2021

MORATORIUMS ON BILLS/RENT

NO.1768 DR. T. SUMATHY (a) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:

Will the Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs be pleased to state:

- a) the number of States that have issued moratoriums on electricity bills, water bills and rent;
- b) whether the National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM) plan to revisit membership criteria of self-help groups to ensure that more women can access these loans and if so, the details thereof; and
- c) whether BPL women have to form seventy percent of the members in a self help group currently and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS

(SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE)

(a)Matters concerning moratoriums lie under the jurisdiction of respective State/ UT, as Land & collection of rent, water and taxes on the consumption or sale of electricity are specified in the State List of the Seventh Schedule.

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(b)& (c) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme named "Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)" across the country, to reduce poverty and vulnerability of urban poor households on a sustainable basis, *inter-alia*, through building strong grassroots level institutions and providing financial assistance to individuals/ groups/ Self Help Groups (SHGs) for setting up gainful self-employment ventures or micro-enterprises. Further, financial assistance is provided to SHGs in the form of interest subvention at the rate over and above 7% Rate of Interest (ROI) on the bank loans. An additional 3% interest subvention is provided to all women SHGs on timely repayment of loans.

> Under DAY-NULM, normally women SHGs are formed, in which at least 70% of the members should be urban poor to qualify for funding support. Mission allows respective State/ UT to decide urban poor as per their own criteria.

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