

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1073

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2007

URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION SCHEMES

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

- (a) the details of schemes implemented by Government for poverty alleviation in the urban areas;
- (b) whether any survey has been made to know the impact of implementation of these schemes on urban poverty;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the funds allocated spent for urban poverty alleviation during the last three years;
- (e) whether the amount sanctioned for poverty alleviation has not been fully utilized;and
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION(KUMARI SELJA)

(a): With a view to ameliorate the conditions of urban poor, and to reduce the urban poverty in the country, Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation is implementing an employment oriented urban poverty alleviation scheme namely, Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) on all India basis, since 1.12.1997. This scheme seeks to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed poor through setting up of micro enterprises and also through provision of Wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of useful public assets. The scheme is funded in the ratio of 75:25 between the Central and the States.

(b)&(c): Recently, the scheme of SJSRY have been independently evaluated by M/s Access Development Services, New Delhi in 9 representative States/UTs of Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa, Gujarat, Assam, Kerala, Goa, Haryana and Delhi. The study started in November 2006 and completed by March 2007. The major suggestions of the study on evaluation of SJSRY include the following:

- * Focus of the scheme should be on supporting urban self-employment.
- * Creation of more micro-enterprises by the urban poor, individually and in groups should be encouraged.
- * Marketing and credit linkages should be provided to the beneficiaries.
- * Service sector and small business activities are areas that have high potential for self-employment opportunities.
- * Proper market assessment needs to be undertaken for the micro-entrepreneurs before deciding on micro-enterprises and other ventures to be set up.
- * Training needs assessment should be conducted before providing skills training to the urban poor.
- * Community mobilization is critical for success of employment creation and income generation programmes.
- * Social security aspects of the poor need to be addressed in conjunction with poverty alleviation programmes.
- * Community-based credit programmes should be designed with the involvement of Non-Government Organisations (NGOs)/Community Based Organisations (CBOs).
- * Capacity building of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and other stakeholders is essential for the success of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY).

(d)to(f): The central funds allocated and utilized for the scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) during last three years, year-wise is as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
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Allocation	123.00	160.00	250.00
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Utilization	123.00	160.00	250.00
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It is evident from the above that the Central allocation has been fully utilized by releasing to States/UTs and other agencies for the implementation of the scheme of SJSRY.