

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:121

ANSWERED ON:07.03.2008

TASK FORCE ON HOUSING

Acharia Shri Basudeb;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

(a) whether the Union Government has set up a Task Force on affordable housing as reported in the Business Line dated 29 January,2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the said Task Force is likely to submit its report to the Union Government;and

(d) the measures being taken by the Union Government to provide affordable houses to the middle and lower income groups?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY 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 LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.121 FOR 7.3.2008 REGARDING TASK FORCE ON HOUSING.

(a)&(b): A Task Force has been set up by this Ministry on 15th January,2008 to look into various aspects of providing `Affordable Housing for All` and recommend ways and means of enhancing accessibility of Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and the Low Income Group (LIG) to housing with suitable governmental support and recommend ways and means of enhancing accessibility of the Middle Income Group (MIG) to housing,apart from developing innovative financial instruments for bringing flexibility in the market and making recommendations with regard to fiscal and spatial incentives for increasing supply of houses.

(c): The Task Force has been asked to submit its report to the Government within a period of four months from the date of constitution i.e. 15th January, 2008.

(d): In order to address the issue of affordability of houses for all sections of society, the National Urban Housing & Habitat Policy (NUHHP), 2007 has been formulated for the first time specifically for urban areas and laid on the Table of both Houses of the Parliament on 7.12.2007.The Policy seeks to set in motion a process for providing `Affordable Housing for All` particularly for EWS and LIG beneficiaries through various types of public-private partnerships.

Apart from NUHHP, 2007 the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) launched by the Government in the year 2005 caters to provision of housing and basic services to urban poor in 63 specified cities under the Sub-Mission of Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP), and in other cities and towns under the Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme(IHSDP).Also a provision of Rs.30 crores has been made under Interest Subsidy Scheme for Housing the Urban Poor (ISHUP) in the current financial year 2007-2008 to provide for interest rate subsidy for loans to EWS and LIG.