

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2176
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2010
HOUSING AND SANITATION FACILITIES TO SCHEDULED TRIBES
Bwiswmuthiari Shri Sansuma Khunggur

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

(a) Whether the Union Government proposes to provide housing and sanitation facilities to all the economically poor and marginalized families belonging to the Scheduled Tribes including those not even listed in the Below Poverty Line (BPL) Index on the pattern of the Indira Awas Yojana; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): 'Land' and 'Colonisation' being State subjects, it is primarily the responsibility of State Governments to provide for adequate Shelter with basic amenities.

However, the Union Government has formulated the National Urban Housing & Habitat Policy, 2007 to set in motion a process for providing 'Affordable Housing for All' with special emphasis on vulnerable sections of society such as Scheduled Castes (SC)/Scheduled Tribes (ST), Backward Classes (BC), minorities and the urban poor.

Apart from this, Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), launched by the Government in December, 2005 caters to provision of housing and basic services to urban poor in 65 specified cities under the Sub Mission Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) and in other cities and towns under the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHS DP). The schemes strive to achieve the holistic slum development, with a healthy and enabling environment by providing adequate shelter and basic infrastructure facilities to the slum dwellers including the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS). Under the 7-Point Charter, there is a provision of Basic Services to Urban Poor including security of tenure at affordable prices, improved housing, water supply, sanitation and ensuring delivery through convergence of other already existing universal services of the Government for education, health and social security. A minimum of 12% beneficiary contribution is stipulated under these programmes. In case of SC/ST/BC/Other Backward Classes (OBC)/ physically handicapped and other weaker sections, it is 10%.

A new scheme – Interest Subsidy Scheme for Housing the Urban Poor (ISHUP) has been launched in December, 2008 for providing interest subsidy on housing loans to the urban poor to make the housing affordable and within the repaying capacity of Economically Weaker Sections (EWS)/ Low Income Group (LIG). The scheme encourages poor sections to avail of loan facilities through Commercial Banks/Housing Finance Companies for the purposes of construction/acquisition of houses and avail 5% subsidy in interest payment for loans upto Rs. 1 lakh. The preference under the Scheme (subject to beneficiaries being from EWS/LIG segments) should be given to the following in accordance with their proportion in the total population of City / urban agglomerate during the 2001 Census.

- i. Scheduled Caste;
- ii. Scheduled Tribe;
- iii. Minorities;
- iv. Persons with disabilities; and
- v. Women beneficiaries.

Further, with a view to encourage allotment of land for EWS, under the newly launched Scheme of 'Affordable Housing in Partnership', Central Government assistance will be provided on a progressive scale vis-À-vis built up area earmarked for EWS/Low Income Group (LIG) as a percentage of total constructed area. The assistance would be available for the provision of civic services such as water supply including ground level/overhead service reservoirs, storm water drainage, solid waste management, sewerage including common sewerage treatment facilities, rain water harvesting, approach roads, electricity lines etc.

The Integrated Low Cost Sanitation Scheme (ILCS) being implemented by the Government in the urban areas of the country aims at conversion of individual dry latrine into pour flush latrine thereby liberating manual scavengers from the age old, obnoxious practice of manually carrying night soil. Under revised guidelines, the scheme seeks to convert/ construct low cost sanitation units through sanitary twin-pit pour flush latrines with superstructures and appropriate variations to suit local conditions (area specific latrines) and construct new latrines where EWS Households have no latrines.

The scheme is on 'All Town' coverage basis irrespective of the population criteria and limited to EWS households only.

