

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2810  
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2010  
UN MEET ON POVERTY  
Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

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

- (a) whether the Government has participated in the United Nations meet to focus on poverty recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the decisions arrived at and the manner in which those are likely to be helpful to the country?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. The Government has participated in the 5th Session of the World Urban Forum held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in March, 2010.

The 5th Session of the World Urban Forum deliberated on the theme of the right of the poor to the city – bridging the urban divide. It discussed the need for granting property rights to slum dwellers and the urban poor so that they have a stake in city development and are not excluded from the mainstream urban development process in the presence of spiraling land prices.

The deliberations in the 5th Session of the World Urban Forum are of significance in the context of finding ways to assign property rights to slum dwellers and the urban poor which is central to the recent announcement of Rajiv Awas Yojana by the Government, aimed at making the country Slum-free and envisaging Central support to States that are willing to assign property rights to slum dwellers.