GOVERNMENT OF INDIA URBAN DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:41 ANSWERED ON:22.02.2011 INADEQUATE SANITATION

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Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Bank, in its report, released recently has brought out the adverse impact of inadequate sanitation in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the impact of deficient sanitation facilities in the country on the urban and rural poor; and
- (d) the details of the steps taken/likely to be taken for improving sanitation in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA ROY)

- (a): Yes, Madam.
- (b): A study on the economic impact of inadequate sanitation has been conducted by Water and Sanitation Programme of the World Bank. The study estimates the total economic impact of inadequate sanitation in India amounts to Rs. 2.44 trillion a year which was equivalent to 6.4% of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the year 2006. The Government of India has adopted the National Urban Sanitation Policy (NUSP) which addresses issues related to sanitation in an integrated manner with specific reference to awareness generation and behaviour change, achieving open defecation free cities and city wide sanitation.
- (c): The report states that the poorest 20% households living in urban areas bear the highest per capita economic impacts of inadequate sanitation of Rs. 1,699 (US\$ 37.5). The poorest 20% rural households bear per capita losses in excess of Rs. 1000 (US\$ 22).
- (d): In addition to the National Urban Sanitation Policy mentioned 'b' above, the Ministry of Urban Development has supported several projects related to sanitation under various schemes, such as the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme in Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT), etc. Under the National Urban Sanitation Policy, States are encouraged to formulate State Sanitation Strategies and cities are encouraged to formulate city sanitation plans with a view to address the issue of sanitation in a comprehensive and holistic manner.