

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3036
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011
IMPLEMENTATION OF RAY NO
Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal

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

- (a) whether the Government had convened a meeting of the State Coordinating Officer looking after the implementation of the Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) in Mumbai on 27 September, 2011;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome of the meeting;
- (c) whether the Government has taken stock of the monitoring of special package coverage of SC/ST, minorities and physically handicapped people;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the present status of monitoring of the scheme in Maharashtra; and
- (e) the assistance provided to Maharashtra for RAY alongwith the status of implementation?

Answer

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

- (a): Yes, Madam. A one day Conclave on Urban Poverty Alleviation and Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) was jointly organized by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation and Government of Maharashtra on 27 September, 2011 to deliberate on the strategies for achieving convergence in the approach towards Urban Poverty Alleviation and implementation of Rajiv Awas Yojana.
- (b): The Conclave was attended by the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, State Ministers of Housing, Urban Development, Mayors and Chairpersons of Urban Local Bodies, officials/ representatives from the state and cities, members from academia, NGOs and other dignitaries. The Conclave was an open forum for discussions on effective strategies for the better implementation of schemes relating to urban poverty alleviation and the creation of slum free and inclusive cities.
- (c) & (d): As the scheme has been launched in June 2011, no project has been sanctioned under RAY so far. RAY advocates a 'whole-city, all slums, whole slum' approach to ensure that all categories of weaker sections including SC/ST, minorities and physically handicapped living in slums are covered. Further, the guidelines of the scheme stipulate that precedence is to given to slums with larger population of the deprived sections i.e. the SC/ST and minorities while implementing the slum upgradation projects.
- (e): No funds have been released under RAY so far. However, the Government of India has released Rs 944.67 lakhs to the Government of Maharashtra for undertaking preparatory activities in 16 cities under the Slum Free City Planning Scheme, the preparatory phase of RAY. The Government of Maharashtra has informed that they have initiated the establishment of state/city level technical cells, preparation of slum free city plans and pilot DPRs.