

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7512

ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012

URBAN POOR

Dhurve Jyoti;Patel Shri Bal Kumar;Singh Shri Radhey Mohan

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

- (a) the present status of the National Policy on Urban Poor;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to conduct an all India survey to identify the number of urban poor so as to make schemes to rid various cities/towns of the country from slums and bring the urban poor under the Food Security Act;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the norms fixed by the Government to determine the urban poor;
- (e) the time by which the said survey is likely to be completed;
- (f) whether the Government also proposes to constitute an expert committee in this regard; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): The Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation has not prepared a National Policy on Urban Poor. However, the Ministry is implementing the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) which aims at providing gainful employment to the urban unemployed and under-employed poor, through encouraging the setting up of self employment ventures by the urban poor living below the poverty line, skills training and also through providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets.

(b) to (e): With a view to have authentic identification of those below poverty line, Government of India has launched the combined Rural-Urban Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) in June, 2011 throughout the country in connection with determination of the number of urban poor. The States/UTs have initiated the survey work with financial and technical support of Government of India.

The survey work under SECC is being carried out by the State/UT Governments and its completion depends on the mobilization of the necessary technical and personnel resources by the respective States/UTs.

(f) & (g): In order to evolve a uniform methodology for identification of urban BPL in the context of the 12th Plan, the Planning Commission, in May 2010, constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Professor S.R. Hashim to recommend the detailed methodology for identification of BPL families in the urban areas. The criteria for identification of urban population below poverty line will depend on the report of the Expert Group.