

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:740

ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012

REHABILITATION OF POOR FAMILIES UNDER RAY

Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram

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

(a) whether the Union Government has received any communication from the Ministry of Railways for rehabilitation of poor families living nearby railway tracks/areas in urban cities under the Rajiv Awas Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Union Government intends to call or has already conducted high level meeting with the State Governments and concerned Ministries of Union Government to address this social welfare issue; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (AJAY MAKEN)

(a)&(b): Yes, Madam.

In pursuance of the Government's vision of creating a Slum-free India, the scheme 'Rajiv Awas Yojana' (RAY) has been launched on 02.06.2011. Currently, Rajiv Awas Yojana is in preparatory phase, focusing on preparation of Slum-free City Plans and sanction/implementation of pilot projects that can be replicated elsewhere.

Ministry of Railways vide their communications have remarked that in-situ rehabilitation of slum dwellers in the vicinity of tracks in linear projections is not feasible due to operational requirement and / or safety constraints and that the State Governments should provide land for their relocation under the RAY Scheme. It has also been stated that the existing provisions of law permit Railways to only assign lease / licensing rights and not property rights to slum dwellers over railway land acquired for public purpose.

The Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation has drawn attention of the Central Government land-owning Ministries/Departments including Ministry of Railways to the guidelines circulated by the Ministry for preparation of innovative pilot projects under RAY with the objective of evolving, demonstrating and establishing models that can thereafter be up-scaled. Under these guidelines pilot projects submitted by Central Government Ministries/Departments, including the Ministry of Railways and Central Public Sector Undertakings are also eligible for central assistance. Central Government land owning Ministries/ Departments have been advised to issue necessary instructions to the agencies concerned under them to explore the possibilities of preparing innovative pilot projects for redevelopment of slums on their land and seek Central assistance.

(c)&(d): This Ministry has held several deliberations with Central / State Governments, Land owning Ministries / Departments including Ministry of Railways to arrive at a policy solution to redevelop / relocate the slums on their land, under Rajiv Awas Yojana. The Central Government Ministries and Departments have been requested to take up slum survey and other preparatory activities and prepare pilot projects for seeking Central assistance support under the current phase of Rajiv Awas Yojana.