

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1975  
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2009  
TASK FORCE FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING  
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) whether the Task Force set up by the Union Government for affordable housing has submitted its report;
- (b) if so, the details of recommendations and the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (c) if not, the time by which the Task Force is likely to submit its report?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION(KUMARI SELJA)

(a)&(b): Yes, Madam. The High Level Task Force set up under the Chairmanship of Mr. Deepak Parekh, Chairman, HDFC Ltd. to look into various aspects of providing 'Affordable Housing for All' has presented the report on 29.12.2008.

The Task Force has strongly recommended the need for 'Affordable Housing' and mentioned that delay in addressing the affordable housing problem would seriously affect India's economic growth and poverty reduction strategies. The Task Force notes that housing is central to economic growth and has multiplier effects on employment, poverty reduction etc. The Task Force estimates that alleviating the urban housing shortage could potentially raise the rate of growth of GDP and have a decisive impact on improving the basic quality of life.

The major recommendations of the Task Force are:-

- i. 'Affordable Housing' be put at the centre of public policy.
- ii. Government may undertake a separate exercise to estimate the number of households in need of affordable housing. The Task Force visualizes the size of the household as five members.
- iii. Upward revision in the FAR/FSI, across cities of different sizes commensurate with investment in infrastructure that it will necessitate.
- iv. In-situ development on public lands for addressing affordable housing issues in partnership with the Government.
- v. 'Security of tenure' be recognized as an important and integral tool for relieving pressures on the housing market. This may be undertaken through regularization of settlements, community or cooperative ownership, security via lease, use rights, which enables in-situ development to take place.
- vi. The recommendations on land related issues i.e. bringing in additional lands, upward revision in the FAR/FSI and in-situ development have to be implemented in an integrated manner.
- vii. Role of State Housing Boards be revamped and the Boards be encouraged to focus on playing a more active role in the provision of affordable housing, even if it is through public private partnerships.
- viii. Bring 'affordable housing' under the infrastructure definition.

As the recommendations of the Task Force cover a range of issues involving inter-ministerial consultations and dialogue with various stakeholders, Ministry is in the process of holding these consultations for taking a final view.

(c): Does not arise.