

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6834

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2013

CENSUS ON SLUM POPULATION

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

- (a) whether according to the new census data, nearly one in every six urban Indian lives in a slum;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the manner in which slum population is counted in the country;
- (c) whether there is an increase in slum population and if so, the details thereof along with the comparative figures of last and current census, city and State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has set any target to make the various cities in the country slum free; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, city and State-wise and the steps taken/ being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI AJAY MAKAN)

(a) & (b): Slum data based on population enumeration has not yet been released by Registrar General of India (RGI). However, as per datasets on the House Listing and Housing Census in Census, 2011 released by RGI, nearly every sixth household in urban area is a slum household. A total of 137.5 lakh households have been enumerated as slum houses in 2543 statutory towns out of 788.65 lakh urban households enumerated in the 2011 Census. These slum households constitute 17% of total urban households. Detailed household data is at Annexure I.

There are various reasons for creation of slums of which the most important are as follows:

- i. Increased urbanization leading to pressure on the available land and infrastructure, especially for the poor.
- ii. Natural increase in the population of urban poor and migration from rural areas and small towns to larger cities.
- iii. Sky-rocketing land prices due to increasing demand for land and constraints on supply of land.
- iv. Absence of programmes of affordable housing for the urban poor in most States.
- v. Lack of availability of credit for low income housing.
- vi. Increasing cost of construction.

Counting of slum population is done by the Registrar General of India along with general census.

(c): As per Census 2001, in 1743 cities and towns having a population of 20,000 and above, the total slum population was 523.7 lakh which constituted 18.3% of the total urban population. In terms of households, slum households in these 1743 cities and towns were 101.5 lakh comprising 18.2% of 558.3 lakh urban households enumerated in the Census 2001.

(d) & (e): Slum is a State subject and it is the primary responsibility of States to rehabilitate slum dwellers. However the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation is providing assistance to States for Slum redevelopment through various programmatic interventions viz:

Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), launched by the Government of India in the year 2005 support States/UTs in taking up housing and infrastructural facilities for the urban poor/ slum dwellers in 65 select cities in the country under the Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) Programme. For other Cities/Towns, the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) was launched. The duration of Mission was upto 31.3.2012 and it has now been extended by 2 years upto the end of financial year 2013-14 for completion of projects sanctioned upto March 2012. The State-wise / City-wise details of projects approved under BSUP and IHSDP are at Annexure-II.

This Ministry is also implementing the Interest Subsidy Scheme for Housing the Urban Poor (ISHUP), which is meant to provide 5% interest subsidy upto Rs.1.0 lakh for construction and purchase of house for the EWS and LIG beneficiaries of the urban poor including Slum dwellers. State-wise details of funds sanctioned and number of beneficiaries covered are annexed at Annexure III.

A new scheme 'Rajiv AwasYojana' (RAY) aimed at ushering in a Slum-Free India has been launched on 02-06-2011. The scheme

envisages providing Central support to States that are willing to assign property rights to slum dwellers for provision of decent shelter and basic civic and social services for slum redevelopment, undertake reservation of land/Floor Area Ratio (FAR)/dwelling units for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS)/Low Income Groups (LIG), earmark 25 per cent of municipal budget for basic services to the urban poor/slum-dwellers and bring in legislative amendments and policy changes to redress land and affordable housing shortages for the urban poor. State-wise/ city-wise details of funds released under RAY are annexed at Annexure IV.

The Affordable Housing in Partnership Scheme, which is intended to encourage public private partnerships for the creation of affordable housing stock, is dovetailed with RAY. Under this scheme Central Assistance will be provided at the rate of Rs. 50,000 per unit of affordable dwelling unit or 25% of the cost of all civic infrastructure (external and internal), whichever is lower. State /City/ town wise details of project are at annexure V.

The progress of these schemes depend on the commitment of the States to mobilize the technical and financial resources. In view of this, it is not possible to set any target to make the whole country slum-free.