

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4053

ANSWERED ON:19.02.2014

URBAN POOR

Nagar Shri Surendra Singh;Patle Kamla Devi ;Semmalai Shri S. ;Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a) whether the poverty in urban areas has been declining in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of people living Below Poverty Line (BPL) in urban areas in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the details of the schemes launched for urban poverty alleviation and employment generation in the country along with the success achieved as a result thereof;
- (d) the details of ground level activities undertaken to make urban poor aware of the programmes and the efforts made to reach out to them; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government for the effective implementation of the schemes?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION [DR. (MS.) GIRIJA VYAS]

(a)& (b): Yes Madam. As per the poverty estimates released by the Planning Commission, the percentage of population below poverty line in urban areas has declined from 25.5% in 2004-05 to 13.7% in 2011-12. A Statement showing State-wise population Below Poverty Line (BPL) in urban areas in the country for year 2011-12 is at Annexure.

(c): The Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) through the State/UT Governments. The Scheme aimed at providing gainful employment to the urban unemployed and under-employed poor by encouraging setting up of self employment ventures by the urban poor, skills training and through providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets.

A total of 13,07,547 beneficiaries have been assisted under Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP), 31,61,339 persons have been skill trained under Skill Training for Employment Promotion amongst Urban Poor (STEP-UP) and 6,62,893 women beneficiaries have been assisted for setting up Group micro enterprises under Urban Women Self-help Programme (UWSP) components of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) since its inception.

The Ministry has launched the National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) in the 12th Five Year Plan w.e.f. 24th September, 2013 by replacing the existing scheme of SJSRY. The NULM will focus on organizing urban poor in self help groups, creating opportunities for skill development leading to market-based employment and helping them to set up self-employment ventures by ensuring easy access to credit.

(d) & (e): As a part of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities, the Ministry organizes National, Regional and State Level training and capacity building programmes, workshops, advertisement and publicity campaign etc. to sensitize the stakeholders. The Ministry also regularly monitors the progress of the Scheme through quarterly/monthly physical and financial reports, periodic review meeting at state/regional/city level and field visits by Ministry's Officers.