

Civic facilities to homeless footpath dwellers

1174. SHRI RAJENDRA PRASAD MODY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up plans to provide right shelter and sanitation facilities for the absolutely homeless footpath dwellers in major urban centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have issued modified guidelines to the State Governments and local authorities in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON):

(a) and (b) With a view to ameliorating the housing condition of urban footpath dwellers, a Central scheme viz. Footpath Dwellers Night Shelter Scheme had been launched by Govt. in 1988-89. The scheme aimed at the provision of Central subsidy @ Rs. 1000 per beneficiary and HUDCO loan @ Rs. 4000 per beneficiary for construction of night shelters for urban footpath dwellers in Metropolitan cities.

(c) and (d) The guidelines of the scheme were revised in September, 1992. The revised scheme envisages construction of independent blocks of pay & use toilets for urban footpath dwellers at a per capita subsidy of Rs. 350 in addition to construction of Night Shelters with community baths & toilets for the use of urban homeless with a per capita subsidy of Rs. 1000. The revised scheme is a composite mix with remunerative components so as to reduce the loan burden of the beneficiary agency and to defray maintenance cost to some extent. Apart from State or local agencies, private agencies including voluntary organisations recommended or concurred in by State Govts. or their agencies, can be associated

with the implementation and execution of projects under the scheme.

Conditions of the Indian cities

1175. SHRI MENTAY PADANA BHAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the poor conditions of the Indian cities is the result of the extremely low priority given to urban development in the country;

(b) if so, what remedial steps are under contemplation of Government;

(c) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry has prepared a scheme of infrastructure projects for the five Mega cities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON):

(a) to (d) Urban Development is a State subject and projects for the same are formulated by the State Governments. Funds for urban development schemes/projects are included in the State Plans. However, Government of India has introduced certain schemes for development of infrastructure in the small and medium towns and in the mega cities. Upto 565 towns have been covered under IDSMT and Central assistance of Rs. 189 crores released.

A Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of infrastructure in Mega cities has been approved in principle by the Planning Commission. The Mega City Scheme will be implemented in the cities of Bombay, Calcutta, Madras Hyderabad and Bangalore during 8th & 9th Five Year Plans. The pattern of funding will be 25 per cent by the Central Government, 25 per cent by the State Governments and 50 per cent by the financial institutions. The total requirement of funds for this scheme is estimated at around Rs. 5100 crores.

At present, 4 urban development projects are being implemented with the