

Housing needs

1161. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any assessment about the total housing needs in the country especially for the weaker sections of the society;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to address the problem on a long-term basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) According to the estimates made by the Technical Group constituted by the Ministry for assessment of the urban housing shortage at the end of the 10th Five year Plan, the total housing shortage in the country is 24.71 million. Out of this shortage of 21.78 million units is for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS).

(c) The National Urban Housing and Habitat Policy (NUHHP), 2007 seeks to set in motion a process for providing "Affordable Housing for All" particularly for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and the Low Income Group (LIG) through various types of public-private partnerships. However, as the subjects 'land' and 'colonization' come under the purview of State Governments, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to deal with the problem of housing needs in the urban areas.

Apart from NUHHP—2007 the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) launched by the Government in 2005 caters to provision of housing and basic services to urban poor in 63 specified cities under the sub-mission of Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) and in other cities and towns under Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHS DP).

Further, a provision of Rs. 95 crores has been made in the current financial year 2008-09 to provide for the proposed interest subsidy scheme for housing loans to Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and the Low Income Group (LIG).

Employment guarantee scheme in urban areas

1162. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to implement the Employment Guarantee Scheme (EGS) in urban areas as a measure of poverty alleviation;
- (b) if so, by when it would be implemented; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) As the conditions are different in urban areas compared to rural areas, there is no such proposal.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation is already implementing an employment-oriented Urban Poverty Alleviation Centrally sponsored scheme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), on all India basis, with effect from 1.12.1997 with a view to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed and underemployed poor through, firstly, encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by those who have studied up to 9th standard and, Secondly, by providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets.

Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990

†1163. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 has still not come into existence;

(b) if so, the motive of Government behind enacting this Act and the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(c) if not, the present status of the aforesaid Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 came into force on 15.9.1997.

New system for marking of feature films by CEO, Prasar Bharati

1164. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that new system of giving marks to feature films has been introduced by CEO, Prasar Bharati and not by the Film Gradation Committee;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that CEO have authorized outside experts to give out of ten marks while the internal officers have been allowed thirty marks;

(d) if so, the rationale behind such misuse of authority by CEO;

(e) whether Government would consider giving equal rights to outside members for marks; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati have informed that the new system of giving marks to feature films has been introduced by the Director General, Doordarshan in order

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.