

Urbanisation and Development

689. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that our cities are in shambles and that they are no more engines of sustainable economic growth and employment;

(b) whether Government is aware of the fact that urbanisation is on the increase creating all sorts of problems; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to make them centres of development and economic activities affording decent living conditions to its dwellers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA ROY): (a) to (c) Cities in India play a vital role in economic growth and employment and contribute 60 - 65% of the Gross Domestic Product which is expected to increase to 75% by 2021.

The Percentage of Urban Population in India has risen from 17.97% in 1961 to 27.78% in 2001. The number of urban agglomerations in towns has increased from 3768 in 1991 to 5161 in 2001. The phenomenon of concentration of urban populations in large cities and existing city agglomerations has led to tremendous pressure on civic infrastructure systems relating to water supply, sewerage and drainage, solid waste management and transport etc. Government of India has launched the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) on 3rd December, 2005 to give focused attention to integrated development of urban infrastructure and services in select cities with emphasis on provision of basic services to urban poor, urban, renewal, water supply, sewerage and solid waste management, storm water drains, urban transport, parking lots, development of heritage areas and preservation of water bodies.

The Government has also launched the Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) and Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) under which cities which are not covered under JNNURM are eligible for financial assistance.

Apart from JNNURM, UIDSSMT and IHSDP, Government of India is also supporting implementation of other programmes like e-Governance in municipalities. National Urban Information System and Schemes relating to Capacity Building.

JNNURM

690. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a restructuring of the JNNURM programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?