

Prosecution of Hafeez Sayeed

2359. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Hafeez Sayeed, main conspirator of 26/11 is not properly prosecuted in Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) what further action Government has taken in this regard; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA) : (a) to (d) Hafiz Sayeed was placed under house arrest under 'Maintenance of Public Order' Act immediately after his listing on December 10,2008 by UN Security Council 1267 Committee. He was released later, on the order of Lahore High Court, on June 2, 2009. Government expressed disappointment at the release of Hafiz Sayeed. On July 6, 2009, the Government of Pakistan filed an appeal in the Supreme Court of Pakistan against the release of Hafiz Sayeed. Pakistani authorities have, so far, not charged Hafiz Sayeed in the Mumbai terrorist attack case. Evidence concerning the case, which also relates to Sayeed's role, has been presented to Pakistan authorities. On August 21, 2009 a separate dossier detailing the role of Hafiz Sayeed in the Mumbai attacks was also handed over to Pakistan authorities and shared with the international community. Interpol issued a notice in the name of Hafiz Sayeed on August 26, 2009. Government expects Pakistan to act with purpose against the perpetrators of the Mumbai attack and also unearth the wider conspiracy which motivated, planned and launched the attack.

Deadline to eradicate manual scavenging

2360. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR:

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

- (a) whether Centre has set itself deadline of March 2010 to eradicate manual scavenging and is planning a data base of 1,15,000 scavengers identified for rehabilitation scheme under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to track progress on this count;
- (b) whether Ministry has decided to acquire details relating to vocational training and bank loans provided to manual scavengers under Government self-employment rehabilitation scheme so that it can monitor implementation; and
- (c) if so, to what extent the deadline of scavenging in March 2010 will be met for abolishing scavenging and whether any steps have been taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA) :
(a) and (b) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment implements Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS). The Scheme was started in January, 2007 and aims at rehabilitation of remaining manual scavengers and their by dependents by 31st March, 2010. The implementing agencies have been requested by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to prepare a detailed database of all the beneficiaries under the scheme, including details of training and loan provided to the beneficiaries.

(c) All efforts are being made to rehabilitate the remaining beneficiaries by March, 2010.

Houses for Urban poor

2361. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of poor persons seeking employment in urban areas of the country as on 1st July, 2007, 1st July, 2008 and 1st July, 2009;

(b) whether there is any Central scheme like REGP for urban poor;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) if not, steps taken to provide minimum assured employment to urban poor?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA) :
(a) No estimate is available regarding the number of poor persons seeking employment in urban areas on 1st July 2007, 1st July 2008 and 1st July, 2009.

(b) to (d) There is no Central scheme like Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (REGP) for the urban poor. However, Government has recently revamped the employment-Oriented urban poverty alleviation programme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) with effect from 1st April, 2009. The scheme strives to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed and under employed poor, through encouraging the setting up of self employment ventures by the urban poor, and also through providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets.

The revamped SJSRY has the following five components:-

(i) Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP)-Targeting individual urban poor for setting up of micro-enterprises.

(ii) Urban Women Self-help Programme (UWSP)-Targeting urban poor women self-help groups for setting up of group-enterprises and providing them assistance through a revolving fund for thrift and credit activities.

(iii) Skill Training for Employment Promotion amongst Urban Poor (STEP-UP)-Targeting urban poor for imparting quality training so as to enhance their employability for self-employment or better salaried employment.