

(e) whether Government is ready to allow building more housing projects on this unused salt land of Mumbai; and

(f) if not, reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) and (b) Presently, no Committee is in existence that has been constituted by the Government to examine issues relating to utilization of Salt Pan Lands of Mumbai.

(c) to (f) Do not arise.

JNNURM in Gujarat

861. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the capital of the States not included in Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission(JNNURM);

(b) whether Government is considering to include capital of Gujarat i.e. Gandhinagar in JNNURM;

(c) the cities of religious, historic and tourist importance included;

(d) whether Government is considering to include Karamsad in JNNURM being related to Sardar Patel;

(e) number of representations received by Government from Gujarat to include Gandhinagar and Karamsad in JNNURM;

(f) the decision of Government thereon;

(g) allocation to Porbandar after its inclusion during February, 2009;

(h) whether it is adequate; and

(i) whether Government is considering enhancing the allocation for Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) Except Gandhi Nagar, the capital of all the States have been included in the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM).

(b) The proposal for inclusion of the Capital city of Gandhinagar was considered by the National Steering Group under JNNURM in its meeting held on 05-01-2009 but the city was not recommended for inclusion as Mission city.

(c) There are three categories of cities included as Mission cities based on population as per census 2001. Category A includes cities with population of 4 million and above; Category B includes cities with population between 1 million to 4 million; Category C includes cities with population of less than 1 million but being State Capitals or having religious/historic/touristic importance. Excluding the States Capitals from this list, the cities which are included on the basis of religious/historic/touristic importance are Jammu, Bodhgaya, Ujjain, Puri, Ajmer-Pushkar, Nainital, Mysore, Mathura, Haridwar, Nanded, Tirupati and Porbandar.

(d) The proposal for inclusion of the city of Karamsad was considered by the National Steering Group under JNNURM in its meeting held on 05-01-2009 but the city was not recommended for inclusion as Mission city.

(e) A number of requests have been received from various sources including Chief Minister, Govt. of Gujarat, Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs) to include Gandhinagar and Karamsad under the JNNURM. As per the Guidelines, the number of cities covered under UIG Component of JNNURM is to remain around 60. Presently, 65 cities are covered under the UIG component of the Mission. All other cities and towns are covered under Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) of JNNURM.

(g) Rs. 100 crore has been allocated for the city of Porbandar.

(h) No project proposal has been received from the city of Porbandar for funding under JNNURM.

(i) No, Sir.

Traffic congestion and related problems

862. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) in the wake of unprecedented increase and use of vehicles on roads leading to lot of traffic congestion and the related problems in and around major Metro Cities in particular, what are the long term and short term measures taken or being taken to manage and tide over this major problem;

(b) whether it is a fact that Expert Study advocate improvement of public transport system including Metro Rails and M.R.Ts. and other services with interlinking facilities on the one side and ensuring disincentives for use of private vehicles on the other; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Government is dead slow in action and rather indifferent in tackling this major growing problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) and (b) The solution for the urban mobility challenges lies in implementation of the National Urban Transport Policy by the State Governments and Urban Local Bodies in letter and spirit. The National Urban Transport Policy envisages prioritization of investment in public transport, pedestrianisation and non motorized transport, land use and transport integration, Intelligent Transport Systems, transport demand management etc. This is supported by various studies also.

(c) No, Sir. Urban Transport is primarily, a State subject. However, for improving scenario of Urban Public Transport, Central Government has taken active steps like, formulation of National