

#### Homes to homeless people

\*215. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Governments have failed in providing homes to the homeless people;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) In urban areas the main reason on the supply side for shortage of housing for homeless people is non-availability of land and housing at prices that make accommodation affordable for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and Low Income Group (LIG), as also the pace growth of urban population which has outpaced supply of affordable housing. On the demand side, it concerns the issue of unemployment and poverty.

'Land' and 'colonization' being State subjects, provision of shelter is the primary responsibility of the State Governments.

This Ministry has taken several initiatives to facilitate the provision of housing to the urban poor by the State Governments. The National Urban Housing & Habitat Policy, 2007 has been framed so as to give aim, direction and urgency to the efforts at every level to redress the causes behind the shortfall and reach out for "Affordable Housing for All" with special emphasis on vulnerable sections of society such as Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, Minorities and the urban poor.

In addition to framing a coherent policy, several programmes have been started for providing financial assistance and capacity building support to States to provide basic amenities to slum dwellers and the urban poor. Central support is being provided to the States (a) for providing shelter, tenure security and basic amenities to slum dwellers in urban areas under Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), (b) for creating affordable housing stock through the 'Affordable Housing in Partnership' Scheme, and (c) for reducing cost of home loans with 5% interest subsidy under the 'Interest Subsidy Schemes for Housing the Urban Poor (ISHUP)'.

#### Repair of irrigation tanks

†\*216. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to repair irrigation tanks in Chambal command area of Rajasthan has been sent by the State Government;

(b) if so, whether Government is going to approve the same; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi