

(c) The meeting was held prior to the 'wikileaks' disclosure.

(d) India's concerns relating to terrorism emanating from Pakistan have been clearly conveyed to the Pakistan side on number of occasions including the recent meeting of the Foreign Ministers of India and Pakistan and the earlier visit of the Home Minister to Islamabad.

#### **Houseless population in country**

2019. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: Will the MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the houseless population in the cities of the country; and

(b) the target of Government to provide house to everyone?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The Census of India, 2001 estimates, 4,47,585 houseless households throughout the country.

(b) The National Urban Housing & Habitat Policy (NUHHP) 2007 aims at promoting sustainable development of habitat in the country with a view to ensuring equitable supply of land shelter and services at affordable prices to all sections of the society. The policy aims at forging strong partnerships among the public, private and cooperative sectors for accelerated growth. The Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation of the Union Government is propagating and promoting the NUHHP: 2007. However, 'land' and 'colonisation' being state subjects, it is for the State Governments to pursue the initiatives under the NUHHP:2007.

The Ministry is also implementing schemes for providing affordable housing to urban poor. The Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), launched by the Government in the year 2005, caters to provision of housing and basic services to urban poor in 5 specified cities under the Sub Mission Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) and in other cities and towns under the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP).

A new scheme – Interest Subsidy Scheme for Housing the Urban Poor (ISHUP) has been launched for providing interest subsidy on housing urban poor to make the housing affordable and within the repaying capacity of Economically Weaker Sections (EWS)/Low Income Group (LIG). The scheme encourages poor sections to avail of loan facilities through Commercial Banks/Housing Finance Companies for the purposes of construction/acquisition of houses and avail 5% subsidy in interest payment for loans upto Rs. 1 lakh.

The scheme of Affordable Housing in Partnership launched in 2009 with an outlay of Rs. 5000 crores, seeks construction of 1 million houses for EWS/LIG/Middle Income Group (MIG) with at least 25% for EWS Category. Furthermore, the Government has announced a new scheme called Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) for providing support to States that are willing to provide property rights to slum dwellers. The Government's effort would be to make India slum free through implementation of RAY.

#### **Shortage of houses in Gujarat**

2020. SHRI NATHUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study to ascertain the shortage of houses, particularly, in the lower and middle income categories in the cities of Ahmedabad, Surat, Rajkot, Mehsana and Jamnagar, keeping in view the existing demand and supply situation;

(b) if so, the details thereof, as on date in this context and the action taken to control the price rise in land and building to make it available for the said categories; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) A Technical Group constituted by the Ministry in 2006 to assess the urban housing shortage has estimated that according to factors of congestion and obsolescence at the end of the 10th Five Year Plan (2007-08), the total housing shortage in the country was 24.71 million. Out of this, shortage of 2.89 million units for Low Income Group (LIG) and 40,000 units for Middle Income Group (MIG) has