

- (b) if so, the amount of Central assistance sought;
- (c) the number of slum dwellers proposed to be provided with housing and other basic amenities in Bangalore under the above project;
- (d) the steps if any, taken by Government in this regard; and
- (e) the reasons for delay, if any, in clearing the project and by when it would be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Funds for urban poor

4168. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether her ministry provides funds or any other sort of assistance to the State Governments for providing basic facilities to the urban poor;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the assistance provided to State Government of Punjab during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) With a view to ameliorate the living conditions of the slum dwellers, a programme known as National Slum Development Programme (NSDP) was launched at the National level by the Government in August, 1996 for the development of urban slums. One of the objectives of this Programme is to provide basic amenities to slum dwellers living in urban slums.

(c) No funds could be provided to the State Government of Punjab, under the NSDP, during the last three years as the pending Utilization Certificates (UCs) for the funds already released to the State Government during the earlier years are awaited.