

the implications of retreating of glaciers and is implementing the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system as one amongst the eight National Missions under National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) which aims to strengthen the system for observing and monitoring the Himalayan glaciers in hill States like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir. Besides, a research centre on Himalayan Glaciology has been established at Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun to undertake comprehensive glacier research in the country. Further, all states including Himalayan States have been advised to prepare the State Action Plan on Climate Change to address specific climate change issues.

#### **Rise in urban population in country**

\*66. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the country's urban population is likely to be doubled within the next few years;

(b) if so, whether the urban housing and infrastructure has become a big challenge in view of rapidly increasing urban population; and

(c) if so, whether Government has formulated any plan to check rapidly increasing population in the urban cities and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Government is, however, aware of the increasing trend of urban population. Census of India has projected the urban population till the year 2026. By that year, the country's urban population will be 53.48 crore which will constitute 38.2% of the total projected population of 140 crore.

The population growth in urban areas is exerting pressure on basic urban services. Urban Development is a State subject and the State Governments have to take action for ameliorating pressures on cities. The Government of India supports States in their efforts through schemes, such as the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), which was launched in 2005. The Urban Infrastructure and Governance component of JNNURM, handled by the Ministry of Urban Development, seeks to improve urban infrastructure and transport in 65 identified cities. The needs of the small and medium towns are catered to by the Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) Programme. In addition, financial assistance for urban infrastructure is also being provided by the Ministry of Urban Development under the 10 percent lumpsum

scheme for the development of North Eastern region including Sikkim, the ADB aided North Eastern Region Urban Development Programme and the Pilot Scheme on Development of Urban Infrastructure in Satellite Towns around the Seven mega cities, besides identified metro and other projects.

(c) It is not the policy of this Ministry to check migration to the cities as the process of migration is driven by demographic and economic factors and forcible distortions in the process may have undesirable consequences on economic growth and development.

#### **Developing of smart cities in the country**

\*67 SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has proposed to develop some cities in the country as Smart Cities in the Twelfth Plan, and if so, the details of cities selected therefor, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any request for making Warangal city in Andhra Pradesh as Smart City, and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action that has so far been contemplated on the above request?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes Sir. The Ministry of Urban Development encourages all cities to use smart technologies to improve the delivery of urban services and proposes to consider smart cities in the next phase of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM).

(b) and (c) Request for making Warangal as Smart City has been received. The present JNNURM does not have such a clearly defined component. However, certain aspects of the "Smart City" concept, such as the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) can be taken up in respect of urban infrastructure and urban transport management under the existing JNNURM guidelines, for which State Government will need to send a proper proposal, which has not been received. Projects sanctioned under JNNURM are dependent upon adherence to extant guidelines of the Mission.

#### **CBMS with Pakistan**

\*68. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state: