

employed poor by encouraging setting up of self employment ventures by the urban poor, skills training and through providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets.

A total of 8,44,459 beneficiaries have been assisted for setting up of micro-enterprises (Individual and Group) and 16,42,122 persons have been skill trained under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) during last five years.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation has launched the National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) in the Twelfth Five Year Plan *w.e.f.* 24th September, 2013 by replacing the existing scheme of SJSRY. The NULM will focus on organizing urban poor in self help groups, creating opportunities for skill development leading to market-based employment and helping them "to set up self-employment ventures by ensuring easy access to credit.

Sanitation facilities in the country

2851. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO : Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that according to a World Bank report, more than 50 percent of Indian households do not have toilets/latrines;
- (b) if so, the details of the report and the comments of Government thereof; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken to provide 100 per cent toilets to the people in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (DR. GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) Yes, Sir.

A report of World Bank titled *i.e.* "Effects of Early Life Exposure to Sanitation on Childhood Cognitive Skills: Evidence from India's Total Sanitation Campaign" by Dean Spears and Sneha Lamba has pointed out that Over 600 million people in India- 53% of Indian households defecate in the open, without using a toilet or latrine, citing a UNICEF and WHO 2012 study "Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation 2012 update".

(b) The effects on childhood cognitive achievement of early life exposure to India's Total Sanitation Campaign, a National Government Programme (Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation-MoDW&S) to encourage local Government to build and promote are of inexpensive pit latrines have been studied in the report. The study suggests that low cost rural sanitation strategies such as India's Total Sanitation Campaign can support children's cognitive development which can improve the human capital of Indian labour force.

(c) The MoDW & S is implementing Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) under which financial assistance is provided to the State Governments for construction of toilets in rural areas. In the 12th Plan an outlay of Rs. 34,377 crores has been provided for rural sanitation as compared to Rs. 6540 crores in the 11th Plan, which is a significantly higher allocation (425% higher than the Eleventh Plan). The goal is to achieve 100% access to sanitation for all rural households in the country by 2022 under the NBA.

BPL households Financial incentive for construction of toilets has been raised for all eligible beneficiaries to Rs.4600/- from the earlier amount of Rs.3200/- under NBA. In addition up to Rs.4500/- can be spent under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme for construction of the toilet. Along with beneficiary contribution of Rs.900, the unit cost of toilet is now Rs. 10,000.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation is implementing the Integrated Low Cost Sanitation (ILCS) Scheme, which envisages conversion of dry latrines into twin pit-pour flush latrines and construction of new latrines for abolition of manual scavenging as per the demands raised by the respective States so far.

Steps taken to address under poverty

2852. SHRI K.C. TYAGI :

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL :

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that urban poverty in the country remains high, at over 30 per cent with over 80 million poor people living in the cities and towns of the country;