98	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]	Unstarred Q	uestions
1	2		3	
41.	Slovakia		13	
42.	South Sudan		157	
43.	Spain		200	
44.	Sri Lanka		48	
45.	Syria		6	
46.	Tanzania		19	
47.	Trinidad & Tobago		1	
48.	Turkey		49	
49.	Uganda		70	
50.	United Arab Emirates		327	
51.	United Kingdom		1305	
52.	United States of America		124	
53.	Vietnam		5	
54.	Yemen		4748	
	Total		92211	

Development of affordable residential units

†2586. SHRIMATI MISHA BHARTI: SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:

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

- (a) whether prices of housing in urban areas/cities are going beyond the reach of people belonging to lower income groups, if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;
- (b) whether various schemes meant for providing affordable housing for all have proved a failure in achieving the goal of making cheap houses available to people of lower income groups, if so, the details thereof and the constraints being encountered in this regard; and
- (c) the details of the steps proposed to be taken to overcome the obstacles coming in the way of developing affordable residential units in urban areas?

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) 'Land' and 'Colonisation' are State subjects, therefore it is the responsibility of States to ensure housing to all citizens including low cost housing to target sections of the society like Economically Weaker Sections (EWS)/Low Income Group (LIG). In order to supplement the efforts of States/Union Territories (UTs), Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation is implementing the "Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) {PMAY (U)}" Mission to provide central assistance to the implementing agencies through States and UTs for providing houses to all eligible families/beneficiaries.

One of the verticals of this Mission is 'Affordable Housing in Partnership'. This is a supply side intervention. Under this vertical of PMAY (U), financial assistance is provided to EWS houses being built by the State/UT in partnership with among others the private sector. So far 508 projects for construction of 5,25,027 houses of EWS category have been sanctioned under this vertical of PMAY (U) in various States/UTs.

Assessment of unsold inventories in housing sector

- 2587. SHRIAJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has made any assessment of unsold inventories so far as housing sector is concerned;
 - (b) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise;
 - (c) the reasons of large number of inventories in the housing sector; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government for making housing affordable for low and medium income groups?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) As per Census 2011, there are 11 million houses lying vacant. No specific assessment has, however, been made of unsold inventories.

- (c) The main reason behind the unsold inventories in the housing sector may be that out of the total housing shortage of 18.8 million houses in urban areas, as estimated by the Technical Group on Urban Housing Shortage (2012-17), 96% of the shortage pertains to Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and Low Income Group (LIG), who may not be in a position to afford the cost of the available dwelling units.
 - (d) This Ministry has launched the "Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Housing for All