

Land at concessional rates to disabled persons

3341. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes notified by Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and Land and Development Office (L&DO) in terms of section 43 of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 together with the details of disabled persons to whom land has been allotted at concessional rates for setting up business, houses etc.;

(b) the details of such land together with their addresses earmarked by Government; and

(c) whether Vice Chairman, DDA and L&DO have received letters from Member of Parliament (MP) on the subject and if so, the reasons for not replying to their letters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and Land and Development Office (L&DO) have informed that there is no policy to provide land at concessional rates to disabled persons for setting up business, houses, etc. Further, L&DO has informed that it has not been allotting land to any Individual/ Non-Government Organizations (NGOs)/Trusts/Societies from 2006 onwards.

(c) DDA and L&DO have informed that no reference has been received from Member of Parliament (MP) on the subject.

Improving municipal governance

3342. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to roll out a nation-wide plan to empower and improve municipal governance and municipal operations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) how Government plans to empower the municipal bodies for playing an effective role under the Smart Cities Mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Urban Development is a State subject and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) function under the laws and rules made by State Government. The

Government is already seized of the various issues facing the urban sector in the country and is addressing them through policy, programme and capacity building initiatives. In order to improve the governance and service delivery of ULBs, the Ministry has been advising and encouraging States to implement the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA) in letter and spirit so that there is proper devolution of powers *vis-a-vis*, functions, functionaries and funds.

Further, emphasis is on implementation of urban sector reforms including E-Governance, Constitution and professionalization of municipal cadre, Augmenting double entry accounting, Urban Planning and City level Plans, Devolution of funds and functions, Review of Building by-laws, Set-up financial intermediary at State level, Municipal tax and fees improvement. Improvement in levy and collection of user charges, Credit Rating, Energy and Water audit, Swachh Bharat Mission etc.

(d) In order to ensure operational independence and autonomy in decision making and mission implementation, the Smart Cities Mission Guidelines prescribe for creation of a city level Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) to be headed by a full time CEO. The Mission Guidelines encourage the State Government and the ULBs to delegate appropriate powers/right to create empowered SPVs.

Aadhaar cards for orphans

3343. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating on providing Aadhaar Cards to orphan children to enable them to get free education and health services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of services being provided to orphan children through Aadhaar Cards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Women and Child Development has taken up the matter with the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) and State Governments/UT Administrations to provide Aadhaar Cards to children who are staying in Child Care Institutions (CCIs) as CCIs are under the administrative control of States/UTs concerned.