

**Effect of demonetization on Realty Sector**

689 SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the demonetization has helped in bringing down the realty prices by 5 to 10 per cent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that launching of new projects since January, 2017 has been less across the cities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) to (d) No such study has been carried out by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

**Death of safai workers**

690. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many safai workers have lost their lives while cleaning sewers and drains in the National Capital and other parts of the country recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years, Year-wise, State/UT-wise;

(c) the action that Government has taken or proposes to take in the matter; and

(d) the action Government proposed to take for rehabilitation of dependents of safai workers who have lost their lives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) There have been reports regarding deaths of persons while cleaning sewer/septic tanks in different parts of the country including National Capital Territory Delhi.

(b) Such cases are immediately taken up with the concerned State Governments to ensure payment of compensation as per Supreme Court verdict dated 27.03.2014 and to initiate action against the employer/contractor in accordance with the provisions of the Prohibition of employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (MS Act, 2013). Details of such cases reported by the States and compensation are given in Statement (*See below*).