

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1566
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2007
POVERTY ALLEVIATION
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Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that despite the high rate of growth, the life of the poor families has not improved;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures taken/being taken by the Government for the alleviation of poverty?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA)

(a)&(b): Data from Census 2001 and other sources indicate a mixed picture regarding the improvement in the living conditions of the poor in the country during the last few decades. The reasons can be many such as rural-urban migration, urban-urban migration, concentration of people in larger cities, in-situ growth of population due to natural increase, environmental factors etc.

(c): In order to ameliorate the living conditions of the urban poor in the country, Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation is implementing an employment-oriented urban poverty alleviation programme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) since 1.12.1997. The programme strives to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed and underemployed poor through firstly, encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by those who have not studied beyond 9th standard and, secondly, by providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets.

Also, to address the housing and basic services needs of the urban poor living in slums, the Sub-Mission on Basic Services to the Urban Poor under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) was launched in December 2005 in 63 select Cities. For the towns/cities other than the Mission cities, the Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) is being implemented to cater to similar needs of the urban poor.