

कुमारी सैलजा
KUMARI SELJA



मंत्री
आवास और शहरी गरीबी उपशमन एवं
मंत्री, पर्यटन
भारत सरकार
निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली-110108

MINISTER OF
HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION
AND MINISTER OF TOURISM
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NIRMAN BHAWAN, NEW DELHI-110108



20th November, 2009

MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you to the website of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (M/o HUPA).

2. My Ministry is the apex Ministry in the Government of India for formulation of policies and programmes relating to housing and urban poverty alleviation. It deals with the implementation of plan schemes for affordable housing, collection and dissemination of data on housing, building materials and techniques, and adoption of measures to reduce house building costs. It also plays a key role in addressing various issues of urban employment and poverty alleviation, including provision of basic amenities to the urban poor and support for establishment of micro-enterprises by skill development of the poor. My Ministry is the nodal Ministry for the implementation of the Sub-Mission of Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP), Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) under the flagship programme of the Government, the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), and now the new programme, of Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY).

3. In order to mitigate housing shortages and deficiencies in basic services to slums and in consonance with the changing policy environment, my Ministry has made following endeavours:

- We have announced the *National Housing and Habitat Policy, 2007* which focuses on affordable housing for all with special emphasis on economically weaker sections of the society. This Policy seeks to emphasise public sector partnering with private sector and also cooperative sector, the employees welfare housing sector and the industrial-cum-labour housing sector.
- To cope with the lack of shelter and basic amenities to the urban poor that have accompanied rapid urban growth, we have launched the *Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM)* in 2005 with the objective of undertaking integrated and holistic redevelopment of slums in

select cities on a mission mode and implement similar programmes in small and medium towns.

- Under *Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP)* Sub-Mission of JNNURM, we have identified 65 Mission cities; in addition, under the scheme of *Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme (IHSDP)* also includes small and medium towns for slum upgradation with shelter and basic civic amenities. Under these schemes, more than 1.4 million housing units have so far been sanctioned for the urban poor under 1304 projects involving project outlay of Rs.33,860 crores and Central share commitment of Rs.18,458 crores.
- We have recently launched two additional schemes to promote affordable housing, namely; (i) *Affordable Housing in Partnership* with an outlay of Rs.5000 crores for construction of one million houses for EWS/LIG/MIG categories with at least 25% for EWS and (ii) *Interest Subsidy Scheme for Housing the Urban Poor (ISHUP)* aimed at encouraging the poor sections to avail loan facilities through Commercial Banks/HUDCO for the purpose of construction of houses and avail 5% subsidy in interest payment for loans upto Rs.1.00 lakh.

4. Other key initiatives of my Ministry include: (i) comprehensive revamping of *Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)* w.e.f. 01.04.2009. The scheme targets the urban population below poverty line for income generation activities through self employment, skill development and community mobilisation/empowerment programmes; and (ii) revision of *National Policy on Urban Street Vendors 2004* and putting in place the Revised *National Policy on Street Vendors 2009*. The new Policy seeks to address the difficulties faced in the implementation of the earlier policy and make it more street vendor-friendly. Along with the new Policy, a Model Bill has been developed and circulated for legal regulation of street vending so as to create a hassle-free environment for street vendors to carry out their activities, (iii) Another important scheme is the revision of *Integrated Low Cost Sanitation (ILCS) Scheme* aimed at the conversion of all dry latrines in the country into water sealed latrines by 2010, thereby liberating manual scavengers from the age-old, obnoxious practice of manually carrying night soil. So far over 28 lakhs latrines have been constructed/converted.

5. It is a vision of the Government to make the country slum-free as early as possible, by providing slum-dwellers basic services and access to decent shelter and creating conditions of urban development that contain the need for the emergence of slums. In order to achieve this vision, a new scheme called '*Rajiv Awas Yojana*' (RAY) has been announced in June, 2009. RAY would incentivise the states that are willing to establish a legal framework for according property

rights to slum-dwellers, prepare and implement plans for Slum-free Cities and a Slum-free Status in a time-bound manner.

6. It would be our endeavour to use this website to establish transparency in all our activities, and to reach out to all the concerned stakeholders with information on the vision and goals, policies, planning and programme of this Ministry. We hope to make this website a two way channel of communication, through which we will receive your responses and suggestions to us. I look forward to your co-operation and support in the endeavours of my Ministry.

Kumari Selja