

Minister Slams State Over Poor Implementation Of Slum Scheme

HT Correspondent, Hindustan Times -Mumbai, April 04, 2013

Union minister for housing and poverty alleviation Ajay Maken has slammed the state government for their delayed decisions on slum housing policies and apathy towards urban poor.

Following a meeting with a delegation led by social activist Medha Patkar over the slum demolitions in Mumbai, Maken, on Tuesday, wrote a letter to chief minister and state housing minister Prithviraj Chavan. In his letter, he questioned the state government's delay in the implementation of the Rajiv Awas Yojana, a central government scheme aimed at creating slum-free India.

Read more: <http://www.hindustantimes.com/Minister-Slams-State>

Housing Policy In The EU Member States

europarl.europa.eu - Directorate General for Research □Working Document
□Social Affairs Series □- W 14 -

Introduction, Housing: a Question for Europe?

Mixed progress

The recent UN Habitat II meeting in, by drawing attention to the appalling housing conditions facing billions of households in the poorer half of the globe, served to emphasise the relatively high average quality of housing within the European Union. At the same time there is a widespread view that housing and neighbourhood conditions for the poorest third of Europeans are neither as

intolerable nor as socially divisive as for Americans, especially in the inner cities. In the Union as a whole, but with considerably more emphasis in northern and western Europe, governments have long promoted active housing policies, frequently absorbing from one to four per cent of GDP. And in every Union country, with two exceptions, there is an over-riding policy objective that adequate, affordable housing should be available to all, Maclennan and Williams (1990), McCrone and Stephens (1995).

The reality is, however, that almost every European government fails to achieve their laudable objective. This may reflect resource constraints for public spending, changing socio-economic patterns to which policy only responds slowly, demographic pressures and shocks (such as the vast, post-1989 influx of refugees into a ring of countries from Greece to Germany) or the inherent failure of, sometimes, expensive policy solutions. At the level of the individual the 1990s growth in homelessness and the apparent backlog of provision for the elderly, the disabled and a range of special needs are cause for concern. At neighbourhood and city level the recorded expansion, in many countries, of the economically and socially disadvantaged in both older, over-crowded and low amenity central city areas and in post war social housing estates is heightening concerns about the causes and consequences of social exclusion. At the national level housing market instability has, in the 1980s and 1990s, created particular difficulties for less wealthy home-owners in Britain, Sweden, Finland, Spain and regions of other countries. And in some countries the priority given to curtailing public spending has prompted reductions in capital spending and led to major re-orientations of housing policy; for example, in Sweden, the Netherlands, the UK and most recently France. The same policy imperatives are now questioning support systems for rental payments. Much of Europe is uneasy with its housing policies and outcomes, Dieleman (1996).

Read more: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/Housing_Policy

Cordaid - Tackling Criminality and Lacking Security



Photo: Cordaid

cordaid.org - Philippi: a place where everyone can live and work

Criminality is high in the Cape Town suburb and urban slum of Philippi. It's also very unsafe and there's little security about the future. So what's needed there? Affordable housing, safe public transport to the center where education and care are available, job training, employment, shops and good facilities.

<http://www.cordaid.org/tackling-criminality-and-lacking-security/>

Featured Conversation: Slums and Service Delivery for the Urban Poor

worldbank.org. 03, 2013

Informal settlements or slums are home to an increasing number of the urban poor. The lack of basic services, from sanitation and waste removal to water and electricity, has resulted in untenable conditions. Moderator Judy Baker and three urban poverty experts share innovations in infrastructure, services, public-private partnerships, and programs that also give slum dwellers a voice in planning decisions. Join the conversation in the comments below!

Read more: [Slums and Service Delivery for the Urban Poor](#)

Homeless International Signs New Partnership Agreement To Build Affordable Homes For Slum Dwellers In Tanzania



homeless-international.org. - wiki
common

homeless-international.org. March, 26, 2013.

Homeless International's award winning CLIFF programme has reached agreement with a new partner - Women's Advancement Trust - Human Settlements Trust (WAT-HST) to build affordable homes for slum dwellers in Tanzania.

The agreement includes the commitment to build nearly 1,200 new homes for slum dwellers in Dar es Salaam over a two year period, with the properties being delivered in 10 projects on an affordable loan basis. Homeless International's Community-Led Infrastructure Finance Facility (CLIFF) programme team, which recently won silver at the prestigious Emerging Partnerships awards sponsored by IFC (a member of the World Bank) and the Infrastructure Journal, will work closely with WAT-HST to build housing delivery systems that generate surpluses to ensure the on-going sustainability of both the organisation and their programme. Work will begin this year with land purchases leading to final completion in September 2014.

"The CLIFF programme provides capital finance and capacity building support for

organisations working in some of the most deprived slums in Africa and Asia to develop the capabilities required provide housing and basic services for the urban poor - ” said Larry English, Homeless International’s Chief Executive. “We are looking forward to our partnership WAT-HST and to seeing the organisation develop models that serve not only the needs of this generation of Tanzanians, but of generations to come.”

Read more: <http://www.homeless-international.org/Tanzania>

Ray Lumpp - Seattle’s Tent Cities Are A Local Reflection Of Global Slum Housing Crisis

seattleglobalist.com. March 27, 2013

Urban slums may seem like a distant problem only facing poor countries. But Seattle has a history of informal settlements all its own.

Tent cities have existed as emergency shelter for thousands of years, often amassing in the wake of natural disasters, political purges, wars and other human catastrophes. For example, the Great Depression caused unprecedented unemployment rates worldwide and forced many American families to live in shanty towns—known as “Hooverilles”—some of which still exist today as tent cities.

Around the world close to one billion people live in informal settlements or “slums.” By some estimates that population is expected to [double by 2030](#). Residents of slums live in extreme poverty despite being located in industrialized urban centers such as Rio de Janeiro, Istanbul, and Cape Town. Characterized by squalor, overcrowding, high crime rates, and a lack of basic human needs, slums are a more visible and permanent relative of the tent cities we have right here in the Northwest.

Read

more:

<http://www.seattleglobalist.com/tent-cities-local-reflection-of-global-slums>