Government of India through Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has been implementing Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban), since June 2015, in order to provide pucca houses to urban poor, specially EWS and LIG categories. During the implementation period, knowledge pertaining to thematic areas such as new housing technology, innovative designs/models/typologies, development policies, comparative analysis, housing finance, etc. is widely sought after. Hence, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MOHUA) has established Housing for All–Knowledge Lab (HFA–KL) as a common platform for learning and dissemination of the knowledge and information. It can be accessed through the official website of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs under PMAY (U) component.

The themes / content to be included in knowledge Lab is as follows:
1. State Policies/Government Orders/Specific Acts from different States/Tender Documents/DPRs/State Specific Financial Documents
4. Documentation related to Social Audit, Capacity Building/Training Materials etc.
5. Other Ministry updates
The key objective of geo-tagging is to track progress of construction of individual houses through geo-tagged photographs, under the Beneficiary led Individual House Construction component of the PMAY(U) Mission. In order to achieve optimum results, please find below an advisory for ensuring quality of the photos geo-tagged and actions points to be followed by the States/UT’s

**1. Quality of Photograph/Geotag (to be ensured by Surveyor’s)**

Quality of photograph is essential for correct assessment of the progress of BLC houses through different five construction stages. Following points should be considered while taking photographs of house constructed under PMAY (U):

1.1 Resolution and Size of the captured image: It is suggested to use the camera resolution as 640 * 480 pixels or lowest possible for easy transfer of data from mobile to server. The size of photo uploaded should be normally between 300k and 600k depending on the composition of the image.

1.2 Direction and Angle: The direction and angle of the geotagged photograph should be such that entire construction stage or maximum portion of the construction stage of the house is visible in the photograph.

1.3 Orientation of photograph: The photos of all 5 construction stages should be captured by surveyor nearly from the same geo-coordinates location (latitude and longitude) of earlier construction stage geo-tagged.

1.4 Photographs not against the sun: Position of the sun should always be on the back of the person taking photograph of the construction stage of the house.

1.5 Clear & Haze free photographs: All surveyor’s should avoid taking photographs in the fog, late in the evening and rains to ensure high quality images.

1.6 Linking beneficiary with the photograph: picture of all construction stages of house should have a picture of the beneficiary along with the house.

1.7 States/UTs to ensure that, the picture of beneficiary should not be capture with her/him holding a play-card/black board indicating beneficiary ID.

1.8 States/UTs also to ensure that while taking photo of beneficiaries care should be taken that beneficiary is not standing in water, roof tops or at any other locations which will put her life or health in danger.

1.9 Accuracy of Photographs: Before capturing photo of the construction stage of house, surveyor needs to wait for some moment so that the accuracy in the range of 10 meters or best possible is achieved. The surveyor is advised to wait for 10 – 20 sec after saving the photograph standing at the same location. Then go for capturing second photograph again wait for 10–20 sec after saving. The surveyor is advised to ensure GPS is switched-on with high accuracy mode before opening the app.

**New Initiatives by States**

1. Government of Uttar Pradesh has come up with a new housing policy on PPP model for EWS housing.
2. Kanpur Development Authority has already started the allotment process of 10,000 AHP houses which are recently sanctioned by Ministry.
3. Government of Chhattisgarh have made Brand Ambassadors for endorsement and awareness of PMAY(U).
4. CPWD has brought out SOR of 8 New Emerging Technologies in a form of booklet along with other supplementary details to ensure smooth and uniform adoption of these new technologies.
5. Maharashtra – The state has developed a checklist with marking system for selection of projects under AHP vertical. The project has to qualify minimum marking criteria to be selected.