

- (ii) Stepping up of institutional investment;
- (iii) Priority accorded to complete ongoing minor irrigation Schemes;
- (iv) Rehabilitation of existing minor irrigation tanks;
- (v) Exploring the possibilities of seeking foreign assistance for minor irrigation projects.

Producing of Marriage Certificate by Married Women for Passports

2352. SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL:
SHRI BALVANT MANVAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is fact that married women applicants of Passports are required to produce their marriage certificates, as per the new directives;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether similar directives have been issued for married men applicants of passports also;
- (d) if not, the reasons for this discrimination; and
- (e) how a marriage certificate helps in considering the merits for issuance of Passports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): (a) No, Sir. There is no new directive. As per existing instructions, a marriage certificate/proof of mar-

riage is required when a woman applicant requests for change of name after marriage in her passport. When the applicant is unable to produce a marriage certificate, the passport authority accepts an affidavit.

(b) Marriage Certificate is asked as a proof for supporting her request to change her name/surname after marriage.

(c) The requirement of documentary proof for a change of name is equally valid for men applicants. However, they are not required to produce marriage certificate as they do not normally change their name as a consequence of marriage.

(d) As in 'C'

(e) Marriage certificate is required only in case of change of name/surname consequent upon marriage.

[Translation]

Allotment of NDMC Shops to Small Traders

2354. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether New Delhi Municipal Corporation had invited applications for the allotment of shops from small traders selling their goods on pavements;
- (b) if so, the criteria fixed therefor;
- (c) when, these shops are likely to be allotted and the locations thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d). On a petition filed by hawkers/squatters, the