

LOK SABHA

Friday, 22nd November, 1957

The Lok Sabha met at eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Heavy Water at Sindri

\*369. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the result of studies being made with regard to the production of Heavy Water at Sindri?

The Prime Minister and the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The studies are still in progress and it will take some time before any decision can be taken in the matter.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know under what auspices these studies are being conducted, and what is the personnel of the committee that is studying this problem?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The studies are being conducted by the Atomic Energy Department, and the House perhaps knows it has already been decided to have a heavy water-cum-fertiliser plant at Nangal. The matter is being pursued further. This applies to Sindri. There are two or three processes which can be applied to Sindri and which can be done. But the present cost according to one process is very high. So it is proposed to have a pilot plant to experiment. Much of this experimentation is being done by the Atomic Energy Department at Trombay near Bombay.

House Rents in Delhi

\*371. { Shri Shree Narayan Das:  
Shri Radha Raman:  
Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha:  
Shri B. S. Murthy:  
Shri Tangamani:  
Shri Braj Raj Singh:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 391 on the 26th July, 1957 and state:

(a) the outcome of the examination of the question of house rents in Delhi and landlord-tenant relationship made by the Government recently;

(b) whether any proposals have been formulated in this respect; and

(c) if so, what are they?

The Deputy Minister of Works Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) to (c). Government have met representatives of some of the tenants and house-owners' organisations and have received a number of representations on the question. As the subject of rent control and eviction is a controversial one, Government is now engaged in studying it in all its different aspects, and they propose to introduce shortly measures to reconcile the differing interests of the landlords and tenants in Delhi in consonance with the principles of social justice.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether the hon. Minister will give us an indication as to the time by which it will be possible for the Government to introduce a measure on the subject?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** I am afraid it is a very complex problem, and a very large number of representations have been received. We are looking into these, and it may take a little time before we can come up before the House with our proposal.

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** May I know the names of the organisations on behalf of the tenants that have submitted memoranda on the subject?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** I do not have the actual names of the organisations who have met us already, but several representatives of the house-owners' associations and also of the various tenants' organisations have already met us.

**Shri Tangamani:** In view of the fact that rents now obtaining in Delhi are very very high compared to the rents at other important cities, and in view of the fact that such legislations are already in vogue in the other States, may we know whether a scheme will be introduced for fixing fair rents at least?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** The whole question is being looked into, and I hope we will be able to bring before the House a comprehensive proposal.

#### Slum Improvement in Bangalore

\*372. **Shri Keshava:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1273 on the 5th September, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the Corporation of Bangalore has since submitted the revised schemes for slum improvement and clearance; and

(b) if so, at what stage the matter now stands?

**The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) and (b). Six out of the seventeen Slum Clearance projects mentioned in reply to Starred Question No. 135 answered on 17th May, 1957 and Unstarred Question No. 1273 answered on 5th September, 1957,

have been received on the afternoon of 21st November, 1957 and are being examined.

**Shri Keshava:** May we know the time that will be taken for the scrutiny of these schemes and sanctioning the amounts so that work may start forthwith in the slum areas?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** As I indicated in my answer, only yesterday six of the revised plans have been received. I should like to give this assurance to the hon. Member, that so far as our Ministry is concerned these schemes will be studied with the utmost expediency.

**Shri Thimmalah:** May I know whether similar schemes have been submitted by important cities in India, and whether grants for slum clearance will be made available to all important States?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is a general question.

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** Various allotments are made to States to cover expenses of slum clearance as far as possible. If these plans conform to the pattern of slum clearance scheme of the Government they will be sanctioned.

**Mr. Speaker:** That does not carry us any further. What is the object of such questions?

**Shri Tangamani:** The scheme which contained nearly 17 slum clearance plans was submitted as early as 17th May, 1957. The hon. Minister says that the revised schemes have been received only for five of them. May we know when at least these five will be finalised?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** Seventeen schemes were received from the Mysore Government in two batches in December, 1956 and in March 1957. They were sent back to the State Government for re-casting, one batch on 4th March and the other on 14th June. In spite of several reminders from our Ministry and also personal letters from the Minister to the State Government, it was only yesterday that we received six of these schemes.