

Forest Reserve Region

859. **Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava** : Will the Minister of **Environment and Forests** be pleased to state :

(a) whether studies of forest reserve region are being made by the National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad since 1972, through satellite ;

(b) whether there has been continuous reduction of the said forest reserve region ; and

(c) if so, the total forest area in the country in 1972 and the percentage of changes highlighted so far ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) The NRSA had assessed independently the Forest Cover of India in 1984 using the satellite data of 1972-75 and 1980-82 as one time exercise. The Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, is undertaking the Forest Cover assessment on a two years cycle basis commencing from 1981-83.

(b) According to the assessment of Forest Cover made by Forest Survey of India Dehradun for the period 1981-83 and 1985-87 the annual loss of forest cover has been estimated at 47,500 hectares.

(c) The total forest cover assessed by NRSA for periods 1972-75 and 1980-82 was 55.51 million hectares and 46.34 million hectares respectively. The NRSA estimates of forest cover suffered from many inadequacies and consequently the figures of NRSA for 1980-82 was reconciled with Forest Survey of India's figures and revised to 64.20 million hectares.

[English]

Development of Plots

860. **Shri Vijay Naval Patil** : Will the Minister of **Urban Development** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of residential plots under Rohini Scheme, 1981 allotted so far ;

(b) the number of residential plots developed by the DDA during each of the two previous years ;

(c) the number of registrants still waiting for allotment of residential plots ;

(d) the reasons for delay in making the allotment to all registrants ; and

(e) the time by which plots will be allotted to all the persons who are on the waiting list ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development (Shri M. Arunachalam) : (a) 41,176.

(b) Year	Rohini
1989-90	3,834
1990-91	3,768

(c) 40,116.

(d) The delay in making the allotment is due to non-availability of potable water in Western Delhi, lack of facilities for the disposal of sewage and non-availability of power which are to be provided by MCD and DESU as also non-availability of land.

(e) All the existing registrants are expected to be allotted plots by the end of 1994-95, subject to availability of land.

Prohibition of Drugs sale in Metropolitan Cities

861. **Prof. Ram Kapse** : Will the Minister of **Welfare** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Youth pledges to shun drugs" appearing in Indian Express, Bombay Edition dated June 27, 1991 ;

(b) if so, whether the Government have since taken any steps to check drug abuse in the country ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the number of persons arrested in Metropolitan Cities involved in drugs?