

(b) whether most of the tribal languages spoken in parts of Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal such as Ho, Munda, Santal, Mahali, Birhar etc. have been ignored due to lack of patronage and support either from the Union Government or the concerned State Government; and

(c) If so, the steps being taken to rectify the situation?

The Minister of Human Resource Development (Shri Arjun Singh): (a) to (c) Article No. 350(A) of the Constitution stipulates that every State and local authority within the State should try to provide adequate facility for instruction in mother-tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups. In pursuance of this stipulation the policy of the Government has been that at primary stage instruction in the medium of mother tongue should be arranged for students belonging to linguistic minorities when such a facility is desired by atleast 40 students in a school or 10 in a class. Most of the States have generally been following this policy. However, difficulties are being encountered such as administrative and financial feasibility of providing instructional facilities through a variety of mother tongues, development of script, preparation and production of textual material and reference books in different languages, availability of adequate number of teachers with proficiency in the tribal languages etc.

Programmes are being organised with the involvement of Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore for production of language textbooks, teaching materials and primers that begin primary education through the tribal mother-tongue and gradually switch over to the regional language. Training and orientation of teachers in this regard is also being taken up.

Deaths caused by open manholes in Delhi

824. **Shri Madan Lal Khurana:** Will the Minister of Urban Development be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made with regard to the functioning of the D.D.A.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how many deaths have taken place in Delhi which were caused by the open manholes;

(d) whether any responsibility has been fixed for causing such deaths and compensation paid to the bereaved families;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) how many uncovered manholes still exist in Delhi?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development (Shri M. Arunachalam): (a) and (b) The functioning of the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has been assessed by the following Committees/Agencies:—

- (i) Committee of Experts (Baveja Committee) (1976-78).
- (ii) Tata Consultancy Services (1984-86).
- (iii) Estimates Committee of the 7th Lok Sabha (1984-85).
- (iv) Committee on Re-organisation of Delhi set-up (1987-89).

The thrust of the recommendations of these Committees/Agencies was that the DDA should be divested of the extraneous functions which have been conferred on it with the passage of time and the DDA should concentrate on its main object of planned development of Delhi and acquisition and development of land.

(c) to (e) Only two deaths have been reported by the DDA—one in April 1987 and the other in December,

1989. In Pitampura area in December, 1989, where a girl child died, no police complaint was lodged and the family members had no complaint against the DDA staff. In the other case, where a 12 year old boy died, the case is pending in the Court and hence no responsibility can be fixed at present. No deaths due to open manholes have been reported in the MCD and NDMC areas.

(f) No uncovered manhole is reported to be existing in Delhi.

Lease Agreements of Hotel Le Meridian and Holiday Inn

825. **Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh:** Will the Minister of Urban Development be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the term of lease agreements of Hotel Le Meridian and Hotel Holiday Inn of New Delhi area ;

(b) Whether any relaxation was given by the N.D.M.C. or Central Government in the lease term ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the total amount of loss incurred so far in lease money, House Tax and other charges till date in the case of both the Hotels, separately ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development (Shri M. Arunachalam): (a) The Government leased land to the NDMC at the crossing of Raisina and Janpath and at Barakhamba Road for setting up of 5 Star Hotels. The NDMC has in the turn licenced these plots to M/s C. J. International Hotels Ltd. and M/s Bharat Hotels Ltd. respectively. Salient features of the licence agreements between NDMC and the above two parties are enclosed in the Statement.

(b) and (c) The Government has not given any relaxation in the lease terms to the NDMC. In regard to the relaxations, if any, given by the NDMC in their licencing terms to the two parties information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) NDMC is in arrears in regard to payment of lease money. The arrears are recoverable along with interest from the NDMC. Measures are being initiated to expedite recovery of the arrears from NDMC. In regard to the loss incurred, if any, by way of house tax and other charges recoverable by NDMC from these two hotels information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

Salient features of the licence agreements entered into by NDMC with Hotel Holiday Inn.

1. The licence has been granted for a period of 99 years at an annual licence fee of Rs. 1.45 crores.

The licence has been allowed moratorium in the payment on annual licence fees from time to time. The accumulated licence fee is payable in instalments. In the event of default in the payment of licence fee the licensee shall be liable to pay licence fee along with interest at 15% per annum.

2. The licensor has absolute discretion to revoke/cancel the licence in the event of licensees failing to make payment of licence fee or any other payment due against them.
3. The land would continue to be on lease with the licensor in whom the building when constructed will also vest.
4. The FAR of the land shall not be more than 250.
5. The licensees shall complete the construction and commission of at least 100—150 rooms with complete facilities as prescribed for the 5 Star Hotel category before the commencement of Asian Games, 1982.
6. The licensees shall obtain the prior approval of the Director General of Tourism to the tariff to be charged at the said 5 Star Hotel.