

sions should be strictly limited to the actually needed area and should not exceed one hectare in each case.

- (2) In hill districts and in other districts having forest lands exceeding 50 per cent of the total geographical area, compensatory afforestation on non-forest land is not insisted upon and is permitted on degraded forest land twice in extent of the area diverted provided forest land involved is less than 5 hectares and the purpose of diversion is for construction of link road, small water works, minor irrigation works, school building, dispensary, hospitals tiny rural industrial shed of the Government or any other similar work which directly benefit the people of the area.

- (3) Only those cases wherein forest area involved is more than 10 hectares are now referred to Advisory Committee for its advice. Cases involving forest area upto 10 hectares are decided by this Ministry without referring those to the Advisory Committee. The Regional Chief Conservator of Forests have been authorised to clear proposals involving forest land less than one hectare.

Each case is considered on its merits and if complete information is received from the State Government, the policy is to take decision within 6 weeks from the date of receipt of the proposal in this Ministry.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether new houses are being illegally constructed in Rohini, Delhi by the certain property dealers; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to get the matter investigated; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

### **Ban on Performing Animals in Circus**

1564. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any ban on performing animals like bears, monkeys, tigers, panthers and dogs in circus;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to lift this ban; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The Government of India, under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, had issued a notification dated the 2nd March, 1991, banning the use of bears, monkeys, tigers, panthers and dogs for training and exhibition. The Hon'ble High Court of Delhi has stayed this Order.

[Translation]

### **Illegal Houses Constructed by Property Dealers in Rohini**

1563. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of