Ad-Hoc Allotment of Accommodation on Medical Ground

4706. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOU-SING be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the period from January, 1979 to December, 1984 some employees/officers under Defence Ministry have been allotted ad-hoc accommodation on ad-hoc basis in Sadiq Nagar Locality on the grounds that father-in-laws of such staff/officers are suffering from T.B. disease;

(b) if so, the particulars of such employees/officers;

(c) whether declaration given by employees was false because the father-inlaws in some cases were not declared dependants in records of such employees; and

(d) if so, how such ad-hoc allotments have been made and what action Government propose to take in such cases ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

Setting up of TV Relay Centres at Balasore and Baripada

4707. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the TV viewers of Balasore and Mayurbhanj Districts in Orissa have been urging since long to set up TV relay centres at Balasore and Baripada, the District Headquarters of aforesaid districts respectively;

(b) if so, whether Government of Orissa have also requested the Union Government for the establishment of TV relay centres at both these places; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to set up TV relay centres at these places ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL): (a) and (b) Such requests have been received, (c) Extension of TV service to uncovered areas of the country, including Balasore and Mayurbhanj Districts of Orissa, will depend on the actual availability of resources during future Plan period.

Written Answers

Plan for Cultivation of Cotton in Gujarat

4708. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any intensive cultivation plan of cotton is being carried out in Gujarat;

(b) if so, since when and the area covered under this plan; and

(c) the results achieved so far ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Centrally Sponsored Intensive Cotton Development Programme is under implementation since 1971-72 in Gujarat State. An area of 3.44 lakh ha. was covered under intensive cultivation in 1984-85.

(c) In the area covered under Intensive Cotton Development Programme, farmers have largely adopted improved package of practices laying more emphasis on timely sowing, use of certified seed, effective plant protection measures, etc. Since the inception of Intensive Cotton Development Programme in Gujarat (1971-72 to 1983-84), the average annual production has risen to 17.68 lakh bales as against 14.69 lakh bales in the years preceding the programme (1958-59 to 1970-71)

Research Programme for Biotechnology

4709. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to accelerate basic research programmes in the field of biotechnology to break yield barriers in major food crops and reduce dependence on non-renewable resources of energy;

(b) if so, the names of the Research . Centres where the basic research program.