

practices for ravines which cannot be put under agriculture. Further, these practices have been successfully demonstrated in farmers' fields in Kota District through Lab-to-Land programmes. Apart from this, operational research on watershed has also been taken up in an area of about 450 ha. recently by the above Kota centre in collaboration with Rajasthan State Government.

In addition to the efforts of the Government of India, the State Government of Rajasthan has also proposed to undertake programme in the ravine lands during the Seventh Plan under the State sector.

Land Bank for Providing Houses to the Shelterless Through HUDCO

1894. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to promote a land bank for providing houses to the shelterless through the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether the scheme is also proposed to be extended to the slum dwellers of Bombay; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

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

[*Translation*]

Functioning of T.V. Tower at Nainital

1895. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the TV tower of Nainital is not functioning properly;

(b) if so, whether Govt. propose to take any steps to bring about improvements in its functioning; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to start functioning smoothly ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). While the transmitter is functioning satisfactorily, the coverage is limited by obstruction due to surrounding high hills and has been interrupted due to power supply failures. The present site was provided by the State Govt. To combat power failures, a stand by generator has been provided to the centre recently.

[*English*]

Misuse of ESI Amount by Medical Practitioners and Chemists

1896. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI :

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that hundreds of medical practitioners and chemists routinely misuse the Employees State Insurance Scheme;

(b) whether the anti-corruption bureau has alleged that seven medical practitioners and twelve chemists have been defrauding the Employees State Insurance Corporation to the tune of about Rs. 5 lakhs each year; and

(c) if so, the measures adopted to check this fraud ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) and (b). The Anti-