

to their needs and priorities. The Sixth Five Year Plan emphasised on environmental improvement of urban slums rather than attempting a massive relocation. In order to boost up the pace of implementation of the Scheme, Central Government had introduced a Scheme of Central incentive grants to the States for additional coverage of slums during the last two years of the 6th Plan, 7th Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised.

#### Housing Loans to Government Employees

2044. SHRI SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to extend housing loans to all employees of the Central Government at a lower rate of interest for solving housing problems, just as the bank employees enjoy ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Service conditions and facilities available to the Government employees and bank employees are not identical. Rates of interest for House Building loans to Government employees have been fixed having regard to the Government's cost of borrowing and the repaying capacity of the employees.

#### Import of Milch Cattle from EEC Countries

2045. SHRI SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND

RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to import milch cattle from EEC countries ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) whether such cattle can be reared in the Himalayan or sub-Himalayan regions of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An offer was received by the Government from Her Highness Princess Irene of Greece for donation of cows from European Economic Community (EEC) countries. The modalities of acceptance of the gift have not been finalised.

(c) Yes Sir.

#### Allocation of Rice to Kerala

2046. PROF. P.J KURIEN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the monthly allocation of rice to Kerala from the Central pool during the past six months ;

(b) the actual demand from Kerala and the actual quantity supplied ; and

(c) the reasons for not meeting the full requirement of Kerala ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). The demand, allotment and offtake of rice from the Central Pool in respect of Kerala during the past six months was as under :

(Qty. in '000 tonnes)

| Month  | Demand | Allotment | Offtake       |
|--------|--------|-----------|---------------|
| 1985   |        |           |               |
| March  | 135.0  | 110.0     | 108.0         |
| April  | 135.0  | 110.0     | 104.1         |
| May    | 150.0  | 110.0     | 118.3         |
| June   | 135.0  | 115.0     | 114.9         |
| July   | 135.0  | 120.0     | Not available |
| August | 135.0  | 125.0     | Not available |