

### Fixation of rent of Government Quarters

3127. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any guidelines to fix the rent of the various types of Government quarters including bungalows;

(b) if so, what are the guidelines and when these were drawn up;

(c) whether these guidelines were ever reviewed and if so, what changes were effected;

(d) whether the amount spent on the construction of majority of the houses has already been realised by Government by way of rent; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to reduce the rent of such houses particularly in view of the difficulties of the salaried class due to increasing cost of living ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These are contained in Fundamental Rule 45-A which came into force from 1st January, 1922.

(c) The Rule was amended in 1978 for inclusion of the cost of site and its preparation, for calculation of licence fee.

(d) Since Government departments construct residential accommodation for their employees all over the country from time to time and expenditure is incurred on repairs and maintenance, it is not possible to indicate whether the amount spent on construction would have been recovered as licence fee. Based on the cost of construction in recent years, licence fee recovered from the employees in accordance with the above principles is a concessional one and does not meet even the cost of maintenance and repairs of buildings.

(e) Does not arise.

### Desert Development Programme

3128. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Desert Development Programme has been converted into a wholly centrally sponsored scheme;

(b) if so, whether previously funds were provided by Central and State Governments in a 50 : 50 ratio;

(c) whether it is a fact that he had stated that DDP which covers 121 blocks in the country will now be 100 per cent funded by the Central Government;

(d) whether the poverty alleviation programme is now proposed to be intensified;

(e) whether any concrete programme has been prepared; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). The Desert Development Programme was started in 1977-78 and upto 1978-79, the entire expenditure on the programme was borne by the Central Government. From 1979-80 onwards, the cost was being shared equally between the Central Government and the State Governments concerned. However, under the Seventh Five Year Plan recently approved by the National Development Council, it has been decided to revise the financing pattern for the Desert Development Programme so as to make it 100 per cent centrally funded.

(c) A statement was made that DDP will now be funded 100 per cent by the Central Government. The Programme is, however, being implemented in 131 (and not 121) blocks in 21 districts of five States at present.

(d) to (f). The Seventh Five Year Plan envisages continuation at an accelerated pace the special programmes for income generation for the poor through asset endow-