

the NBCC at the close of the according year, as per the terms and conditions of the agreement entered into with the clients. This treatment, therefore, neither requires specific disclosure in the according policy nor it leads to inflated value of the work done. No separate exhibition is made by the NBCC in the balance sheet in regard to the materials treated as value of work done, on the same grounds. The relevant clause in one of the cost plus works agreement is reproduced as under :

"The term 'Actual Cost' shall include

(i) Cost of materials viz. cement, MS Rods, Centering, shuttering and scaffolding, steel, timber, stone metal etc. and all other materials purchased or manufactured directly or indirectly by the NBCC and the value of any other materials supplied by the clients for use on the work with or without value. This also includes the value of materials received by transfer from other units of the Corporation with prior concurrence of owner—Materials, if supplied by Owner shall be valued at their Priced Store Ledger (PSL) rates;

(ii) Cost of cartage, insurance, freight, taxes, octroi, royalty, demurrage and wharfage (beyond control of NBCC) and excise duty, watch and ward etc. of all the materials/stores brought to site."

Subsidy to fertilizer industry

5748. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the subsidy given to fertilizers has been exploited by the fertilizer industry and its benefits do not substantially reach the peasants;

(b) if so, what steps are taken to ensure that the benefits of subsidy to fertilizers reach the peasants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU) : (a) and (b). The selling

prices of fertilizers are statutorily controlled by the Government with a view to ensuring their supply to the farmers at a uniform rate throughout the country. These prices are considerably lower than the cost of production of fertilizers. Government, therefore, pays subsidy to the manufacturers to the extent their realisation from the sale of fertilizers, at the statutorily controlled rates falls short of the fair retention price fixed by the Government. The aforesaid arrangements ensure that the farmers get the fertilizers at reasonable prices.

Central assistance for sewerage works in urban areas

5749 PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central assistance/subsidy for undertaking sewerage works in urban areas is available only to such towns as have a population of one lakh each;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that in all the 9 hill States as recognised by the Planning Commission as also the hill regions of bigger States, hardly two or three towns qualify for this subsidy and even most of the State Capitals of these States are not eligible for this assistance/subsidy; and

(c) if so, whether the rules and guidelines governing the allocations of this Central assistance/subsidy will be relaxed shortly so as to cover at least all State Capitals and district head-quarters of these Hill States/Regions so as to enable them to benefit from this assistance/subsidy, irrespective of the size of population ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) There is no Central assistance/subsidy for undertaking sewerage works in urban areas. The Government of India has only formulated policy guidelines regarding urban sanitation which envisages provision for sewerage and sewage treatment facilities in all Class-I cities and low cost sanitation facilities in Class-II through Class-VI towns in all the States and UTs, including hill states. The sewerage facilities will be provided in State Capitals also even if they

are not having more than 1 lakh population, including hill States. Since sanitation is a State subject, it is for the State Governments to make necessary provision of funds, formulate and implement sanitation projects as per their priorities.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Evaluation of field publicity units

5750. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any evaluation of the work and performance of the Field Publicity Units has been undertaken during the last three years;

(b) if so, the findings of the evaluation; and

(c) if not, whether such an evaluation of their units in hill States/regions and border districts of other States would be undertaken at an early date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main findings are as under :

1. The film shows of the Field Publicity Units are able to draw large crowds in rural and urban areas;
2. Though the films shown by the Field Publicity Units were on a variety of themes with emphasis on family planning, the people needed more information on agricultural, animal husbandry and other activities which are of direct economic interests to them.
3. The cartoon films dealing with more sophisticated and unfamiliar themes were not suitable for rural audiences.

4. Photo exhibitions are popular in educational institutions, rural and other distant areas.

5. Posters and pamphlets distributed did not prove to be much effective.

6. The remuneration paid to the puppet parties was inadequate.

7. Though the Field Publicity Units generally co-ordinated their activities with other agencies, there was scope for improvement.

(c) Does not arise.

Drinking water supply scheme for Himachal Pradesh

5751. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Centrally sponsored Drinking Water Supply Schemes undertaken in Himachal Pradesh during the last three years including the current financial year, district-wise;

(b) the financial allocations for each of these schemes, the number of villages and population estimated to be covered by each schemes and the date by which each one of them has been/would be completed;

(c) whether any monitoring has also been done by the Union Government/Programme Evaluation Organisation of Planning Commission to ensure the expeditious completion of these schemes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) and (b). Drinking Water Supply is a State subject. States plan, formulate, implement and maintain rural water supply schemes. States make financial provisions for rural water supply schemes under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). Government of India supplements the efforts