

conservancy staffing norms, streamlining work procedures in billing, collection, documentation of receipts, selective privatisation of certain municipal services etc. Amongst revenue measures, the Group has suggested upgradation of taxes of Cantonment Boards on par with municipal bodies, appointment of an authorised valuation officer to assist the Cantonment Executive Officer in the preparation of assessment list, abolition of slab system of property tax and its replacement by a consolidated property tax, periodical review/revision of non-tax sources of revenues etc. The report has recommended certain measures, *inter-alia*, for the upgradation of civic amenities such as conversion of dry type public latrines into water borne system on a time bound basis, expansion of sewerage scheme in larger Cantonments etc.

4. Finally, the Group has recommended a three-tier system of grants-in-aid to bridge the resource gap of the Cantonments with an independent budget allocation to DGDE. The concept of Inter-cantonment cross funding has also been put forward.

5. The feasibility of the various measures suggested by the Group is under scrutiny of the Government with a view to formulate appropriate decisions on each of the recommendations.

### **Benches of High Courts**

7198. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals currently under consideration of the Union Government to set up benches of High Courts; and

(b) whether the Government are evolving a uniform policy for setting up of benches of High Court's; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, High Court-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) The present policy of the Government of India is to consider the question of establishment of a High Court Bench in the light of broad principles and criteria recommended by the Jaswant Singh Commission, after a proposal has been received from the concerned State Government, in consultation with the Chief Justice of High Court. At present, there is no proposal, complete in all respects, under consideration of the Central Government for establishing a High Court Bench.

### **Meeting of NCR Planning Board**

7199. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the National Capital Region Planning Board was held in New Delhi during the last week of April, 1994;

(b) if so, the details of the participants; and

(c) the decisions taken by the Board particularly about the setting up of group committee for various purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The list of participants is given in the statement.