

BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) has taken up the construction of five earthquake resistant houses as prototype demonstration units near Killari, Latur in Maharashtra.

(b) The prototype has been designed with following salient features:—

- i. Lintyl and roof level RCC bands.
- ii. Pre-cast solid concrete blocks for walling.
- iii. Pre-cast RCC. solid planks for roofing.
- iv. Extra strengthening at corners of the outer walls.

(c) The Government has been undertaking the construction of such houses in the earthquake hit areas only.

Assistance for Eradication of Malaria

511. SHRI N.J. RATHVA:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1801 on December 19, 1994 and state:

(a) whether the World Bank exploratory mission has completed its feasibility study to identify areas for eradication of malaria;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds likely to be provided by the World Bank to malaria-hit States during the current year; and

(d) the time by which the intensified programme is likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.SILVERA): (a): No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(English)

Industrial Sickness

512. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether industrial sickness has emerged as a major problem in certain States during the last few years;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Data on sick industrial units assisted by banks in the country are compiled by the Reserve Bank of India. According to the latest Reserve Bank of India data, the extent of sickness in the small scale and non-small scale sectors as at the end of March, 1992 and March, 1993 was as follows:

	As at the end of March, 1992	As at the end of March, 1993
No. of sick SSI units.	245575	238176
No. Of Non-SSL sick units.	1536	1867

Six states having major share in sickness have been identified as Maharashtra, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu, whose share in sickness of small scale sector has been almost steady at 61.3% and 61.4% as at the end of March, 1992 and March, 1993, respectively but the share in sickness of Non-small scale sector has declined from 72.0% as at the end of March, 1992 to 69.1% as at the end of March, 1993.

(b) and (c): No specific survey has been conducted by Ministry of Industry on industrial sickness in the recent past.

Accounting and Pricing System in Defence PSUs

513. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a two-day seminar on cost accounting and pricing system in Defence Public Sector Undertakings and Ordnance Factories was held in New Delhi during the last week of January, 1995;

(b) if so, the details of the subjects discussed at the seminar and the important suggestions made therein and the objectives thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to implement the suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) A two-day Seminar on Cost Accounting and Pricing Systems in defence Public Sector Undertaking and Ordnance Factories was held in New Delhi on 27th and 28th January, 1995.

(b) and (c): The topics discussed were Costing Systems and Management accounting, Transparency in pricing policy services' perception, Pricing strategy and Capacity utilisation, Costing of development-cum-production items, Responsibility centres- strategic business units, Simplification of cost accounting systems, Inter relationship between finance accounts and cost accounts and review of annual accounting format in Ordnance Factories.

A broad consensus had emerged during the Seminar that appropriate follow up action should be taken with regard to recommendations for simplification of cost accounting procedure and updating of the costing methodology in line with current industrial practices so as to make the cost accounting system in Defence Production Units more relevant and management oriented. Government has taken up both short term & long term measures for implementation of the suggestion

expeditiously. Instructions have already been issued for implementing certain short/long term measures such as (i) reduction in warrant life; (ii) material usage control (iii) simplification of store ledgers; (iv) valuation of work-in-progress; (v) re-grouping of overhead work orders; (vi) re-classification of variable overheads; (vii) review of overhead absorption method; (viii) reduction in procurement lead time.

Further, a task force has been set up so that the remaining short term and long term measures are examined and taken up for implementation in a time bound manner.

HIV Infection

514. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research has suggested effective infection control measures for hospitals to allay patients' fears regarding accidental HIV infection;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (c) Based on the recommendations of the expert Group in Indian Council of Medical Research in the context of emerging problem of HIV infection, comprehensive guidelines for the control of Hospital acquired infections were formulated and communicated to the Health authorities of all the States/Union Territories for strict implementation.

UPSC Examinations

515. SHRI K. G. SHIVAPPA:
SHRI C. P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to increase the age limit for other backward classes (OBC) in the examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission on the pattern of SC and ST from this year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) The Government have issued orders on 25th Jan. 1995 allowing relaxation of upper age limit prescribed for direct recruitment by three years in respect of candidates belonging to other backward classes (OBC). This order is also applicable for examinations conducted by UPSC.

Panchayat Polls

516. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have been asked to hold the Panchayat polls in the States;

(b) if so, the States which are going to have elections after February, 1995;

(c) the names of the States which have assigned additional responsibilities to the Panchayats; and

(d) the nature of the responsibilities assigned to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) and (b) To conduct panchayat polls is the responsibility of the State Government/State Election Commission. However, they were requested by the Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment to conduct panchayat elections at the earliest. Panchayat elections are due in Bihar, U.P., Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Kerala and Gujarat and in the Union Territories. Elections to Zila Parishad/Panchayat Samiti in Karnataka are also due. Besides, elections to Zila Parishad are due in Orissa, Himachal Pradesh and Manipur. These States have informed that they are preparing for panchayat polls.

(c) and (d) It is the responsibility of the State Governments to endow adequate powers and functions to the panchayati raj institutions and in this process they will be guided by the provisions in the State Legislations.

Voluntary Organisations

517. DR. R. MALLU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any grants-in-aid were provided to voluntary organisations in Andhra Pradesh under the Family Welfare Programme during 1992-93, 1993-94 and till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the grants-in-aid have been fully utilised by the State Governments;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.