

**Technology for Mud Houses Resistant to Rains**

[*Translation*]

4191. SHRI NARSINGRAO SURYA-WANSHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item captioned, "safer mud houses with polymer solution coating" appearing in the Deccan Herald of 1st December, 1989 wherein it has been stated that the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd., Baroda and the Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun, have developed a new technology which makes mud houses more resistant to rains;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to prepare any scheme to promote construction of such mud houses particularly in rural areas; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). Indian Institute of Petroleum (IIP), Dehradun developed a method for polymer coating on mud walls for waterproofing in 1983-85. Subsequently, the technology was transferred from IIP to Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) which further improved the performance of solvent from safety and cost point of view. The rural Development Cell of IPCL undertook the extension work. IPCL has participated in workshops and given demonstrations at various centres in the country to communicate the new technology. During 1989-90, IPCL, with the help of voluntary agencies, has covered 300 houses and it is proposed to cover 2,000 houses in 1990-91. The Central Building Research Institute, National Building Organisation and HUDCO have shown interest in this technology.

**Additional Increment to Non-striking Employees of 1974**

4192. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether one additional increment was given to non striking railway employees of 1974;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to extend this provision to other employees in order to remove disparity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir, subject to specified conditions.

(b) and (c). Since the additional increment was given for a specific reason to such of the staff who qualified for it, it can not be extended to those who were not eligible for the same in terms of the scheme as formulated and implemented.

**Price of Cement**

4193. SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV:  
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH  
SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been steep rise in the price of cement in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to check the price of cement?