

curricula both textual and teaching aids, audio-visual forms etc., the U.G.C. has given high priority to a Scheme for redesigning of Curricula both for under-graduate and post-graduate courses through Curriculum Development Centres set up at different universities. So far 27 Centres have been set up.

#### **House Building Advance to Employees of Tamil Nadu**

1613. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of employees of Tamil Nadu Government who have been given House Building Advance by the Government during the year 1990-91;

(b) whether Government propose to expand the facilities of House Building Advance to the Government employees; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN):

(a) According to information available from Government of Tamil Nadu, 0.35% of its employees have been sanctioned house building advance during the current financial year.

(b) and (c). A scheme of direct financing by HDFC for construction of houses initially in the cities of Madras, Madurai and Coimbatore and their peripheral areas has been introduced from the year 1989-90.

#### **Loans to Sugar Units of Maharashtra from Sugar Development Fund**

1614. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether loans from Sugar Develop-

ment Fund for cane development are not available to new sugar factories, creating problems of inadequate cane availability in the factories located in the non-traditional cane pockets; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government of Maharashtra has urged the Union Government to sanction loans for Sugar Development Fund not only for cane development but also for making available can not these factories for installing modern equipments for optimum energy generation and steam conservation; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDER SINGH): (a) According to prevalent practice, sugar mills which have conducted trial crushing or are in operation are eligible for grant of loans from Sugar Development Fund for cane development scheme in accordance with the merits of the case.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The matter is being considered by the Government.

#### **Leprosy Patients in Bihar**

1615. SHRI A.K. ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question number 7026 on May 2, 1990 and state:

(a) whether highest number of leprosy patients belong to Bihar;

(b) if so, the district-wise break up of the patients in Bihar;

(c) the steps taken to combat the disease in Bihar;