

sliding doors of compartments, improvement in the vestibules to prevent unauthorised entry and provision of better lighting facilities in and outside the Compartment.

Government Railway Police, who are responsible for safety and security of passengers travelling in trains and their belongings, are making all efforts to control crime on the Railways by providing escorts on trains, surveillance over criminals, arresting and prosecuting them in specific cases. Railway Protection Force is assisting the Government Railway Police in this regard.

Bride Beating/Burnings Cases in Delhi for Dowry Demand

2405. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has lately been a spate of bride beating/burnings cases as a result of dowry demands, particularly in Delhi and other northern States; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Police at times are not helpful towards the victims or to their parents in the speedy registration of the cases under proper sections of the Indian Penal Code ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) There has been an increase in cases involving bride beating/burning reported to the Delhi Police during the period 1-1-1985 to 30-6-1985 compared to the figures for the corresponding period in 1984 information in respect of other Northern States is not readily available and is being collected.

(b) No, Sir.

Priority to Housing in the Planning

2406. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken or

propose to take a decision to accord priority to housing in the Planning;

(b) the priority Government have given to Backward States like Orissa for housing; and

(c) the details of assistance proposed to be rendered to such States through the Town and Country Planning Organisations and HUDCO ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b). Government's programme for housing is primarily directed towards weaker sections of the society. The housing component of the Minimum Needs Programme provides for distribution of house sites and construction assistance to rural landless families and for improvement of slums. The Minimum Needs Programme is a priority programme outlays for which are earmarked. The 20-Point Programme also a high priority programme includes in addition to the above two housing schemes, a programme for the direct provision of housing to the economically weaker sections of the society. These programmes are in operation in all States including Orissa.

(c) Town and Country Planning Organisation recommends Central assistance only under the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns Programme of which residential area development is a component. In the case of Orissa, the exact amount of the assistance will be known when the scheme has been approved and finalised. HUDCO has already sanctioned schemes in Orissa with a loan commitment of Rs. 6.47 crores against the allocation of Rs 10.75 crores for 1985-86.

Allocation for IRDP and NREP

2407. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Planning Commission have slashed down the Seventh Plan allocations for the Integrated Rural Development Programme, National Rural Employment Programme; etc.;

(b) if so, reasons thereof; and