

The layout plan for LIG Houses was originally prepared with a view to construct 560 four-storeyed houses. However, it has now been decided that this category of houses should be restricted to three-storées without reducing the number of houses. The layout plan is accordingly being revised by DDA.

(b) The houses under SFS category-II are under process of construction. The construction of houses under LIG category will be taken up immediately after finalization of the plans. The time for completion of these houses will be 1½ to 2 years approximately.

Opening of Additional District Radio Stations during Seventh Plan

843. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the opening of additional District Radio Stations has been included in the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the total number of such stations which would be opened in each year of the Seventh Year Plan; and

(c) whether any priority would be given to hilly and backward areas where communications are quite difficult ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) and (b). In its draft proposals for the 7th Plan, AIR has included schemes to set up Local Radio Stations in the different States. Implementation of the schemes will depend upon the final shape of the 7th Plan.

Procurement of Millets from Andhra Pradesh

844. SHRI M. SUBHA REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state whether Government propose to procure jowar and other millets to utilize like rice where there is demand as there is no demand for these crops in Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : No, Sir. Coarsegrains, including jowar, are procured and distributed by the State Governments themselves.

Rehabilitation of Indian Workers returning from Gulf Countries

845. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of Indians working in the Gulf countries are returning as the chances of employment there are dwindling;

(b) if so, whether Government have any scheme to rehabilitate them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government has no such scheme.

(c) Does not arise.

Adoption of Safety Measures in Industrial Establishments in Orissa

846. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industrial accidents that took place in the State of Orissa in 1983-84;

(b) whether Government have given directions in 1984-85 to various industrial establishments in Orissa to adopt adequate safety measures to check industrial accidents;

(c) if so, the number of industrial establishments that have taken those safety measures; and

(d) the result thereof till 30 June, 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) The number of industrial accidents in the State of Orissa in the year 1983 was 2547.

(b) The enforcement of the Factories Act 1948, which contains measures for safety in industrial undertakings, is entirely the responsibility of the State Government. After the

industrial accident at Bhopal in December, 1984. Central Government had written to all State Governments and Union Territory Administration including Government of Orissa requesting them to streamline procedures, strengthen factory Inspectorates and to enforce the provisions of that Act more effectively, so that number of accidents are brought down.

(c) and (d). Information is not available with the Government of India in the Ministry of Labour.

New Maize Variety Developed by Haryana Agricultural University

847. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Haryana Agricultural University has developed a new maize variety :

(b) if so, the name of the new variety and the number of days it takes to mature;

(c) its per hectare average yields; and

(d) the steps taken to popularise such variety in other maize growing States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) Haryana Agricultural University has not so far developed and released any maize variety for commercial cultivation.

(b) to (d). Question do not arise.

Data on short weights and measurements

848. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that reliable data on vastness and seriousness of problem of short weights and measurements is not easily and readily available for want of accurate data;

(b) whether any such studies have been undertaken by Consumer Research and Education Organisations in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have any plans to fully involve such voluntary agencies in implementation of schemes for consumer protection and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No reliable and comprehensive studies have been undertaken by Consumer Research and Education Organisations in the country.

(c) The Government operates a scheme "Measures for Consumer Protection" under which grant-in-aid is provided to voluntary consumer organisations for implementing schemes relating to consumer education through seminars, workshop, exhibition, etc. research and investigation into consumer problems and other such activities which may be helpful in promoting a strong consumer protection movement in the country.

Uniform Wages in Industry

849. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to ensure uniform wages in an industry in different States;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) to (c). The general question of uniformity in wages was discussed at the 31st Session of the Labour Ministers' Conference held in July, 1980. It was agreed at the Conference that while absolute uniformity is not possible, there should not be too wide a disparity in wages prescribed by neighbouring States as it might lead to flight of industry from one State to another. Accordingly, the Conference emphasised that while fixing/revising minimum wages under the Minimum wages Act, due regard may be given to the impact that the prescribed wages might have on the industry in other States, specially the neighbouring ones.

The question was again recently discussed at the 35th Session of the Labour Ministers'