

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority has launched a New Scheme "Awaz Sakar Yojana" Under which the registrants of the New Pattern HUDCO Scheme, 1979 have been asked to form Co-operative Group Housing Societies for construction of houses;

(b) whether the Delhi Development Authority had obtained the opinion of the registrants for the new scheme; if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the response from the registrants to the new scheme and the number of societies formed or being formed under the scheme; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to allow formation/registration of fresh Group Housing Societies for those persons who have not registered themselves for houses with the Delhi Development Authority under any scheme; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 5642 persons have opted for Group Housing Societies upto the last date prescribed for this purpose i.e. 25.1.89. 763 more persons have opted after the last date. The number of societies to be formed for this purpose will be decided after the scrutiny of the options.

(d) Registrar of Cooperative Society had recommended allotment of land to 1281 Group Housing Societies registered upto 1983. There has been no progress in the allotment of land to these societies due to paucity of land available with DDA. The

formation/registration of any fresh Group Housing Society could be considered only after substantial progress has been achieved in the matter of allotment of land to the societies registered in 1983.

[English]

#### Check on Blindness in Poor Families

1819. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of blinds in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether blindness is on the increase in poor families;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the measures being taken to check blindness in the poor families?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) As per ICMR Survey conducted in 1971-73, there are estimated 9 million blind in the country. State-wise details of the blinds are not available.

(b) and (c). There are no such indications.

(d) Government of India has launched a National Programme for Control of Blindness 1976-77 throughout the country. The strategy involves establishing of infrastructure at primary, secondary and tertiary levels, camp approach for out-reach areas and health education measures. Besides, Vitamin 'A' prophylaxis programme is being carried out by the network of the MCH Department of Family Welfare. Special preference is given to children living in tribal areas, drought prone areas, other backward areas,

**ICDS blocks and urban slums.**

**National Forest Policy**

1820. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently drafted a National Forest Policy;

(b) if so, whether the draft policy has been circulated to State Governments for comments; and

(c) if so, the reaction of State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (c). The National Forest Policy, 1988 was announced by the Central Government in December, 1988. It has been circulated to the State Government for necessary action.

**Increase in Penalty for Non-Construction of House on Land Allotted by DDA**

1821. SHRI VISHNU MODI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority has decided to increase the penalty for those persons who fail to construct houses on the land allotted by the DDA during the stipulated period, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether persons who after completing the construction of their houses applied for the Occupancy Certificate during the years 1974 and 1975 have still not been issued the same on one pretext or the other if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any guidelines are pro-

posed to be issued to the authorities concerned to expedite the issue Occupancy Certificates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Delhi Development Authority has increased the penalty to 10% & 20% of the value of the plot on current market rates or 50% of the bid/premium whichever is higher at the end of the 10 & 15 year respectively and effective from 1.1.90. For construction upto 1989 additional penalty at the rate of 15% and 25% of the predetermined rates or 50% of the bid/premium amount whichever is higher at the end of 10 and 15 years respectively will be charged. The reasons for the increase of penalty are that in original Scheme of Large scale Acquisition, Development and Disposal of Land, it was envisaged that the allottees will complete the construction on the plots within a period of 3 years including grace period. Past experience is that the allottees are holding over plots for speculation purposes and thus defeating the objective of the scheme.

(b) There is possibility that the allottees/owners who applied for occupancy certificate in the year 1974 and 1975 have still not been issued occupancy certificates. Usually, the reasons for delay in such cases are as under:-

- i) time extension for belated construction, has not been obtained.
- ii) rectification of the non-compoundable items has not been done.
- iii) non-payment of the penalties for the compoundable items.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.