

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) if the answer to Part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) (a)
Yes, Sir.

(d) The Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, has conducted artificial rain making experiments by seeding clouds from aircraft with a finely powdered mixture of common salt and soap-stone in the Pune area of Maharashtra in the south-west monsoon seasons of 1973, 1974 and 1976. The Institute with the help of the India Meteorological Department conducted artificial rain making experiments operations at the request of the Uttar Pradesh Government in the Rihand Dam area in 1973 and 1974.

The results of the experiments conducted in the Pune area have not been found to be statistically significant. The experiments have to be carried out in a number of seasons before any conclusions can be reached.

There was no suitable infrastructure for verifying the results of the experiments in the Rihand Dam area.

(c) Does not arise.

Gradation of Cities

1787. **SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the minimum population requirement for gradation of cities into different categories;

(b) whether the minimum population requirement for a B class city is 4 lakhs population; and

(c) if so, whether taking into consideration the present population of the city of Gwalior which was more than 3,90,000 in the 1971 census, Government will consider upgradation of the Gwalior City into 'B' category and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE SHRI H. M. PATEL: (a) and (b). The population as per 1971 Census required for gradation of cities into different categories is as follows:—

Class of cities	Population as per 1971 Census
A—Class	Over 16 lakhs
B—1 Class	Above 8 lakhs but not exceeding 16 Lakhs
B—2 Class	Above 4 lakhs but not exceeding 8 lakhs.
C—Class	50,000 and above but not exceeding 4 lakhs.

(c) Cities are classified for the payment of House Rent Allowance and Compensatory (City) Allowance to the Central Government employees according to their population as revealed in the 1971 Census. For classification for the grant of House Rent Allowance, only the population

with in the municipal limits of the city including that of the suburban municipalities, notified areas or cantonments as are contiguous to it is taken into account. For classification for the grant of compensatory (city) allowance, the population of the Urban Agglomeration, wherever it

exists as per 1971 census, is the criterion; otherwise, the population of the municipal area forms the basis. Gwalior City has a population of 3,84,772 in its municipal area, and 4,06,140 in the Urban Agglomeration. Therefore, it has been classified as 'C' for purpose of House Rent Allowance and B-2 for purpose of compensatory (City) Allowance. No decision has been taken on the revision of classification of cities on the basis of the post-1971 Census growth in population.

I.D.A. credits for financing projects in Bombay, Madras and Calcutta

1788. SHRI KUMARI ANATHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank is consulting India and other countries of South Asia on lending for urban development;

(b) if so, whether Government has approached IDA for credits to finance projects in Bombay, Madras and Calcutta aimed at improving water facilities, transportation; and

(c) what other projects the Union Government/State Governments proposed to take, if the credits are made available by IDA?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) No, Sir. Discussions are, however, held periodically with the World Bank regarding pipeline of projects for financial assistance. In these discussions, certain urban development projects have also figured.

(b) and (c). At present, the following projects are receiving assistance from the World Bank Group, in the field of urban development, water supply, transportation, etc. in Bombay, Madras and Calcutta.

BOMBAY

(i) Bombay Water Supply & Sewerage Project.

(ii) Second Bombay Water Supply & Sewerage Project

(iii) Bombay Urban Transport Project.

MADRAS

Madras Urban Development Project.

CALCUTTA

(i) Calcutta Urban Development Project.

(ii) Calcutta Urban Development Project Stage II

The following further projects are also under consideration. The Calcutta Urban Transport Project is under discussion with the Bank. The Madras Metropolitan Water Supply Scheme is also under consideration for being posed for Bank Group assistance. The Bombay Metropolitan Regional Water Supply Project is currently being appraised by the Bank.

बाढ़ राहत कोष में बी गई धनराशि को प्रायकर छूट देने का प्रस्ताव

1789. श्री सुभराज : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार उन व्यक्तियों को प्रायकर से छूट देने का है, जो बाढ़ राहत कोष के लिए धनराशि देते हैं; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कुलकर्णी-उत्तराह) : (क) जो व्यक्ति बाढ़ मद्दायता कोष में रकमें दान करते हैं उनके लिए प्रायकर में छलम से छूटब -कोई विशेष छूट नहीं है। बाढ़ मद्दायता कोष अथवा किसी अन्य धर्मार्थ प्रयोजन के लिये की जाने वाली दान की रकमों, जैसा कि प्रायकर अधिनियम में परिभाषा की गई है, प्रायकर अधिनियम, 1961 की धारा 80-छ(2)