

ment for house-building purposes; and

(b) whether the entire demand of the Orissa Government was complied with, if not, the reasons thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT):** (a) and (b). Central financial assistance is released to States in the form of 'block loans' and 'block grants' for their Annual Plans as a whole and not for any specific scheme, project or sector of development. No demand has been received from the Government of Orissa for house building purposes specifically.

However, in August, 1978 the State Government of Orissa requested for the allocation of Life Insurance Corporation loan amounting to Rs. 400 lakhs. The State Government was allocated L.I.C. loan amounting to Rs. 140 lakhs in October, 1978. General Insurance Corporation loan amounting to Rs. 100 lakhs has also been allocated to the State Government in November, 1978. Besides this, Housing and Urban Development Corporation—a Government of India Undertaking—also make available loans to the States for housing purposes.

#### **Expenditure on Agriculture in Lakshadweep**

**3802. SHRI P. M. SAYEED:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total agricultural land developed in the Union territory of Lakshadweep so far;

(b) whether the Soil there is very fertile for the agricultural crops; if so, whether Government has made any research about it there; if not, whether Government propose to do it; and

(c) how much has been spent up-till now for the development of Agriculture in the Lakshadweep?

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA):** (a) An area of 2780 ha. of agricultural land has so far been developed.

(b) The soil is very fertile for coconut cultivation which occupies the entire cultivable area. The Department of Agriculture of the Union Territory has carried out trials on cultivation of various inter-crops in coconut gardens. Vegetables, tuber crops like sweet potato and tapioca and fruit plants like papaya and banana are coming up. The Central Plantation Crop Research Institute, a Unit of the ICAR, at Minicoy has taken up an integrated research programme to develop a package of practices for intercropping in coconut gardens.

(c) Rs. 51.03 lakhs.

#### **Assistance to Universities for expansion**

**3803. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Universities have submitted proposals for their expansion and sought a part assistance to be borne by the University Grants Commission;

(b) if so, details thereon; and

(c) total assistance proposed to be provided by the Commission to those Universities?

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER):** (a) to (c). The University Grants Commission provides financial assistance to each University for a plan period for their development programmes which include opening of new departments and expansion of existing ones. The quantum of financial assistance is determined on the basis of the resources available with the Commission and the assessment of the

requirements of each university made by the Visiting Committees. The Commission has not yet finalised the guidelines for the formulation of the Sixth Plan programmes of the universities.

**Representation from Kerala Government for development of Sports**

3804. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Kerala Government for development of Sports and some other problems; and

(b) if so, action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) and (b). A letter from the Kerala Minister for Works and Sports was received in August, 1978, bringing up various points relating to the promotion of sports and games in Kerala. The points raised in the letter were examined in the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare and reply explaining the position was sent to the Kerala Minister in November, 1978.

**Difference in Cost of production of Sugar in Tamil Nadu and other States**

3805. SHRI K. A. RAJU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that following decontrol of sugar, sugar produced in Tamil Nadu is not able to face the competition with sugar flowing into the State from the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar;

(b) if so, whether it is true that in view of the lower cost of produc-

tion the above States were able to sell sugar in Tamil Nadu at Rs. 1.80 p per kilo against Rs. 2.30 p. by the Tamil Nadu Sugar Mills; and

(c) if so, whether the Central Government propose to set up a National Sugar Corporation to run sick sugar mills or to hand over the mills it had taken over to the concerned States after redeeming them viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). With the removal of all controls of prices, distribution and movement of sugar with effect from August 16, 1978, the forces of supply and demand would govern the structure of market prices. The competitive ability would vary from factory to factory depending upon a variety of factors including its cost of production, the sales realization it obtains, productivity, utilization of installed capacity etc. The weighted average of the cost of production of Tamil Nadu sugar factories is, in fact, lower than that of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

(c) No, Sir.

**Government Accommodation**

3806. SHRI ARJUN SINGH BHADORIA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees category-wise entitled to each of the Type I to VIII of accommodation separately as on 30th November, 1978;

(b) whether government propose to provide them accommodation within six months, even hiring private accommodation if need be;

(c) the total number of Government quarters of each type separately available in Delhi/New Delhi in different pools; and