

(a) whether the allocation of funds for grant of house building advance to the Central Government employees has been cut down during the current year thus causing considerable hardship to those employees based in Delhi, who have been allotted D.D.A. built MIG Flats after having waited for a long number of years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI RAM KINKER): (a) and (b). Originally, a provision of Rs. 16 crores was allocated in the Budget Estimates for 1979-80. Considering, however, the large pressing demand from the Central Government employees, for grant of house building advance, the allocation has since been raised to Rs. 31 crores.

(c) Does not arise.

Registration of New Group Housing Societies in Delhi

31. SHRI S. R. DAMANI:

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to lift ban on registration of new group housing societies in Delhi; and

(b) if so, when a decision will be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) and (b). The Registrar

of Co-operative Societies, Delhi Administration, has reported that a decision has already been taken to lift the ban on registration of new Group Housing Co-operative Societies.

Drinking Water Shortage in Maharashtra

32. SHRI V. G. HANDE: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of India promised to the Maharashtra Government to help in the Drinking Water Scheme in villages where scarcity of drinking water is being experienced;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is acute scarcity of drinking water in District Nasik in Maharashtra; and

(c) if so, what steps Government proposed to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SKANDAR BAKHT): (a) Yes, Sir. Under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme grants-in-aid are given to State Governments/ Union Territories (including Maharashtra) to supplement the States/ Union Territories Plan resources under the Minimum Needs Programme, and thereby to accelerate the coverage of problem villages with safe drinking water.

(b) There are problem villages in District Nasik also and schemes costing Rs. 72.28 lakhs to cover 51 villages in the district have so far been approved under the Central Programme.

(c) Funds provided under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme to Maharashtra were of the order of Rs. 312.80 lakhs in 1977-78 and Rs. 403.93 lakhs in 1978-79. For the current year the

allocation for States is yet to be decided. Meanwhile it has been decided to initially release Rs. 155 lakhs to Maharashtra on ad hoc basis pending final allocation.

minor irrigation Project. The Command Area Development Project at Laktak is also under execution in the State.

Central Assistance for drought affected Manipur

33. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the extent and nature of central assistance to the State of Manipur as a relief to its people affected by the recent severe drought;

(b) whether the State Government approached the Centre for assistance if so, the nature and extent of the assistance asked for;

(c) whether Government propose to consider long term measures to meet severe drought conditions in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b). The State Government have projected a total demand of Rs. 538.31 lakhs of which they have proposed Rs. 338.68 lakhs under the Food for Work Programme and Rs. 199.63 as advance Plan assistance.

A Central Team visited Manipur on the request of the State Government to make an on the spot assessment of the drought situation and on the basis of its report and the recommendation of the High level Committee on Relief, a total amount of Rs. 261.99 lakhs Advance Plan assistance has been allocated to the State.

(c) to (e). The Central Government has been providing assistance to increase the irrigation potential of the State. During 1978-79, the Government of India made a special allocation of Rs. 45 lakhs to the State to take up

Rehabilitation of Deserters from Dandakaranya

34. SHRI SAUGATA ROY: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the remaining deserters from Dandakaranya have been evicted from Marichjhapi in the Sunderbans, West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the arrangements made for their rehabilitation in Dandakaranya?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) and (b). According to the information furnished by the Government of West Bengal all the deserter displaced persons have since been persuaded to leave Marichjhapi reserve forest lands.

On leaving Marichjhapi, these persons numbering about 10,000 were taken to Transit Camps where they were provided shelter, medical facilities, sanitation arrangement and cash and dry doles. All of them except about 400 have since been moved from the transit camps in special trains to rehabilitation areas.

(c) On return, the relief families are readmitted to Karmi shibirs and the settler families are taken to their respective rehabilitation sites and provided rehabilitation assistance as per sanctions applicable to the returnees.