

### Upgradation of Madras City

6296. SHRI N. SOUNDARAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the population required to approve a city into A-I city;

(b) what is the present population of Madras city; and

(c) if the required population is there in Madras, why not it is up-graded with A-I City?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA): (a) For the purpose of payment of House Rent Allowance and Compensatory (City) Allowance to Central Government employees, the highest classification of a city is 'A' class city. At present, to become eligible for such classification, a city should have population exceeding 16 lakhs according to the 1971 Census Report;

(b) Information is not readily available.

(c) On the basis of its population according to 1971 Census, Madras is already classified as 'A' class city.

### Workman of Bailadila Iron Ore Project Missing from Hospital

6297. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a workman of Bailadila Iron Ore Project who was admitted in the project hospital on 23rd February, 1981 is missing from the hospital since 26th February, 1981; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken to trace him?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). A heavy vehicle driver of Bailadila Deposit No. 14 of N.M.D.C. was admitted into the Project Hospital on 26th February, 1981 for treatment of hypertension and depression but is reported to have absconded from the

Hospital at 2 A.M. on the 28th February, 1981. The matter was reported to the local police immediately. The Project authorities also made independent efforts to locate him in and around the project area and in his village and other known places. Subsequently, his dead body is reported to have been located by a non-employee who informed an employee of the project. This employee informed the Project Authorities at about 7.00 P.M. on 14th March, 1981. The local Police was also informed immediately. The cause of death is under investigation by the Police.

### Setting up of an Independent Director General to Supervise Allotment and Quota Administration

6298. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether small exporters of garments house suffered heavy losses due to improper handling of the day-to-day work connected with export by the APEC;

(b) if so, whether Government have any proposal to set up an independent Director-General to supervise the allotment and quota administration; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). AEPC have created a post of Director General to be the Chief Executive of the Council. The issue of selection against this post is under consideration.

### Aid Programme of U.S.A. towards India

6299. SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any hardening in the attitude of U.S.A. in regard to its aid programme towards India during the past year or so;