

due to rapid expansion, of P&T services.

(c) A number of steps have been taken to ensure provision of adequate man power for meeting the needs of the service. A system of short duty staff has been adopted to meet the situation arising out of shortage of staff. A standing pool of trained reserve has also been decided to be formed in various units so as to keep additional man power readily available for utilisation. The subordinate recruiting authorities have been directed to speed up the recruitment processes and fill up as many vacancies as possible by 31-3-1981.

#### Slums in India

848. PROF. RUPCHAND PAL: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated slum population in India in the last year; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take for the improvement of large number of slum dwellers?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a)

No accurate statistics of population living in slums are available. It has, however, been estimated that about 1/5th of the urban population may be living in slums.

(b) During the Five Year Plan period 1980-85, it has been decided to allocate Rs. 151.45 crores for environmental improvement of urban slums. This allocation is expected to benefit about 10 million slum dwellers.

#### Production of foodgrains, cereals and pulses

849. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BCSU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the actual and estimated production of foodgrains cereals and pulses from 1977-78 to 1980-81, year-wise, and

(b) the factors responsible for rise or fall in the production in each year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION, (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The estimates of production of foodgrains, cereals and pulses for 1977-78 to 1980-81 are given below:

(Production Million tonnes)

	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81* Preliminary Assessment.
Total Cereals . . . . .	114.44	119.72	100.48	121.5
tal Pulses . . . . .	11.97	12.18	8.37	11.5
Total Foodgrains . . . . .	126.41	131.90	108.85	133.0

\*Firm estimates for 1980-81 would be available after June, 1981.