

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES  
(SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY):**

(a) and (b). The organisation and administration of public distribution system is the responsibility of the State Governments and they are required to ensure the proper distribution of essential commodities through the outlets of the public distribution system. The State Government have been delegated powers, under the provisions of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to issue orders, notifications for supply and distribution of essential commodities notified under the Act and to take action against those indulging in malpractices. The State Governments have also been advised to set up consumer's committees at village, district and state levels to oversee the functioning of fair price shops, by associating representatives of people.

**Accommodation problems faced by  
Members of Parliament**

8798. SHRI ANAND SINGH:  
SHRI K. A. SWAMY:

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

(a) whether Government are aware that MPs are facing great difficulties in accommodating their guests in the Western Court;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to increase the rooms in the Lok Sabha Pool in Western Court or in any other place;

(c) whether it is a fact that there have been many cases of over-stay by the guests in the Western Court; and

(d) if so, whether Government will consider to enhance the rent beyond the allotted period in order to discourage this practice?

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND  
HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN**

**SINGH):** (a) and (b). The guest accommodation to the M.P.s. in Western Court is provided on payment of market rent subject to the availability. As on 23-4-81, 33 suits in W.C. Hostel are occupied by the guests of M.P.s. In addition, 20 suites are being occupied by the M.P.s as regular allotment. There is no proposal to increase the rooms in Lok Sabha Pool in the W.C. Hostel or in any other place as guest accommodation. The Government have since decided that surplus units in the M.P.s Pool shall be surrendered by the Lok/Rajya Sabha Pool to the General pool after keeping with each of the M.P.s Pool 5 surplus units (Hostel) for allotment as guest accommodation.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Presently there is no such proposal under consideration.

**Increase in Rural Unemployment**

8799. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:  
Will the Minister of RURAL RE-  
CONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that rural unemployment in the country is increasing every year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN  
THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION  
(SHRI BALESHWAR RAM):** (a) and (b). The Government is aware of the problem of unemployment in the country. The number of persons seeking or available for work (in the age group 15—59) which stood at 6.16 million as per the results of the 27th round of the National Sample Survey (October 1972—September 1973) was reported as 6.72 million as per the results of the 32nd round of the National Sample Survey (July, 1977—June, 1978).

The Government have introduced the programmes of (1) Integrated Rural Development (2) Khasi and Village Industries (3) Training of