

Slum Clearance in Calcutta

1315. **Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have sanctioned any amount for the slum clearance in Calcutta for the years from 1955-56 to 1959-60; and

(b) if so, what is the amount and what progress has been made in this connection?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). The Slum Clearance Scheme was introduced in May, 1956. Out of Rs. 380 lakhs, upto which slum clearance projects can be sanctioned in West Bengal during the Second Plan period, two projects of the approved cost of Rs. 71.04 lakhs for construction of 1184 houses were sanctioned for Calcutta in October, 1957. The Government of West Bengal have intimated that they have since sanctioned in August, 1960, three more projects of the estimated cost of Rs. 49.40 lakhs for construction of 688 houses in Calcutta, while a few more projects are under their consideration. According to the progress reports received from State Government upto 30th September 1960, 660 houses had been completed while another 172 were under construction against the sanctioned projects.

Sale of Cement

1316. **Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether cement is sold through approved dealers;

(b) if so, whether cement is regularly supplied to them; and

(c) whether it is sold at a controlled rate?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir. The approved dealers are the Cement

Stockists appointed by the Selling Agents of the State Trading Corporation.

(b) It is for the Selling Agents to ensure regular supplies of cement to their stockists on the basis of the area-wise requirements of cement indicated by the State Government.

(c) Yes, Sir. Under the Cement Control Order, 1958, the price at which cement can be sold in a State by dealers other than the State Trading Corporation is fixed by the State Government. The price at which cement can be sold by the Corporation has been fixed by the Cement Control Order.

Meter Manufacturing Factory

1317. **Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the meter manufacturing factory set up in Chandigarh has gone into production; a:

(b) if so, what is the number of meters produced per month and the comparative price of imported meters?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Radio Programmes of Gujarat Stations

1318. **Shri K. U. Parmar:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints that the standard of All India Radio programmes of Ahmedabad and Rajkot Stations has gone down considerably; and

(b) if so, what action Government proposed to take to keep the standard high?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Like every other station, the Ahmedabad and Rajkot stations of A.I.R. also receive from time to time stray com-