

(c) whether the select lists of these officers have not been brought out for the last 10 years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which these select lists are likely to be brought out ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (e) No Select List (SL) for regular promotion to Grade I as Under Secretary (U.S.) could be prepared after the 1986 SL owing to protracted litigation regarding inter se seniority of directly recruited and promotee Section Officers (SOs). As a result, regular promotions from Under Secretary's Grade to Deputy Secretary's Grade of Central Secretariat Services (CSS) have also been affected. The Common Seniority List (CSL) of SOs has since been issued on 15.5.1996 in compliance with the order dated 22.3.1995 of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT). The action will be taken to prepare regular panels for U.S. by holding meetings of DPC. The exercise of preparing such panels will involve preparation of a list of eligible SOs/Private Secretaries of CSSS, collection of up-to-date CR dossiers of the officers covered in the zone of consideration, constitution of DPC, etc. The exercise is time-consuming, and it is not feasible to specify a definite time for its completion.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to Bihar

5298. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bihar has been allocated less financial assistance in comparison with other States since the First Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government proposes to enhance the Central Assistance for the development of a backward State like Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) Allocations of Central Assistance for State Plans from the Fourth Five Year Plan onwards have been according to various criteria laid down under the formula approved time to time, by the National Development Council. The criteria of population (60%) and per capita income (25%) are weighted highly in favour of backward

States (including Bihar). Bihar has been allocated the next highest amount of Central Assistance after Uttar Pradesh. Prior to the Fourth Five Year Plan, the allocations of Central Assistance were based on actual utilisation by the States under various schemes/programmes.

[English]

Rural Housing

5299. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up a task force to promote rural housing; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) : In the year 1995, a Task Force on Rural Housing was constituted to enlarge the scope and outlook of the entire rural housing programme. The terms of reference of the Task Force were to identify thrust areas in policy, suggest necessary changes in the guidelines to broad-base the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) and also to implement housing programme by involving voluntary organisations through Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology* (CAPART). During 1995-96, the CAPART sanctioned construction of more than 30,000 houses under IAY with the help of the Task Force. The Government also organised four national seminars on rural housing with a view to identify various technology/material options suited to various geo-climatic conditions with the assistance and cooperation of the Chairman and other members of the Task Force.

Restructuring Oil Sector

5300. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the high level Restructuring Committee in petroleum sector has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) the reaction of the government thereto; and

(d) the details of action taken/proposed in this regard?