

it has also been the objective of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1970, to rationalise drug prices. As a consequence while the prices of sulphadiazine drugs have come down in some cases they have also gone up in others on account of increased cost of raw materials primarily due to import substitution.

**Housing Facilities in the Capital for Homeless Persons**

844. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :  
SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI :

Will the MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (NIRMAN AUR AWAS MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the last three years, the number of homeless persons in Delhi increased 300 percent viz., from 6,586 to 20,997 ;

(b) whether at least three graduates, two in Science and one in Arts, are among the many who, at the moment, live on pavements of the nation's capital ;

(c) the number of homeless persons in the capitals of each State during the last three years and as per latest census ; and

(d) the steps, if any, being taken to tackle the problem of acute and growing shortage in housing facilities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (NIRMAN AUR AWAS MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) It is estimated that number of homeless persons in Delhi increased from 6,586 in 1961 to about 20,997 in 1971 census. This represents an increase of about 219%.

(b) Yes, Sir, this fact was revealed during the 1971 census in Delhi.

(c) The information is not readily available as the processing of data collected during the 1971 Census will take quite some time.

(d) The Working Group on Housing for the 4th Five Year Plan had estimated at

the beginning of the Plan, the shortage of urban housing in the country to be about 119 lakh units. Even at a modest cost of Rs. 10,000 per house, the investment required to wipe out the housing shortage of this extent would be of the order of Rs. 12,000 crores.

The Fourth Five Year Plan includes a provision of Rs. 241.87 crores under Housing and Urban Development. Out of this approximately Rs. 193 crores is for housing schemes in the States and Union Territories. Recently a Housing and Urban Development Finance Corporation has also been established as a Government company with an authorised capital of Rs. 10 crores to be provided by the Government out of which a sum of Rs. 2 crores was provided during 1970-71 and another sum of Rs. 2 crores is proposed to be provided during 1971-72. The Corporation is expected to build up a revolving fund of Rs. 200 crores over the next few years for financing projects of housing and urban development.

Keeping in view the limited resources available for housing during the 4th Plan period, it will take quite some time before any appreciable improvement in housing conditions in the country could be expected.

**Separation Allowance for Air Force Personnel**

845. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the MINISTER OF DEFENCE (RAKSHA MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air Force officers while serving in field where families are not allowed, are paid Separation Allowance every month ;

(b) if so, whether similar facilities are available for other ranks also ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (RAKSHA MANTRI) (SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. Married officers are entitled to separation allowance.

(b) No, Sir.