

miles of underground water, located in the upper half mile of the earth's surface, lies unutilised; and

(b) if so, whether our hydrologists have made any survey or devised ways to tap this source?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed):
(a) No.

(b) However, quantitative investigation for determining the ground water resources in the country are already in progress. Nearly 23 per cent of our present irrigation is from ground water resources.

Accommodation for Journalists

3932. Shri B. K. Das:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Eswara Reddy:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development be pleased to state:

(a) whether accredited correspondents, photographers and other categories of journalists are eligible for Government accommodation in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the rules, regulations and procedure for the allotment of such accommodation;

(c) the number of such journalists and photographers who have been given accommodation so far; and

(d) how many are on the waiting list?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) and (b). In recognition of the part played by them in the public life of the country it had been agreed in the year 1953 to provide to accredited Press representatives accommodation from the general pool. A certain number of houses have been placed at the disposal of the Press Association for this purpose and allotments are made on the basis of the priorities determined by the Press Association.

(c) 78.

(d) 86.

Hindustan and Green Residential Estate Colonies in Delhi

3933. Shri Ramabadran: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Residential Estate and Green Estate Colonies situated near Badarpur on Jaitpur Road, Delhi, are approved colonies; and

(b) if so, whether there is any Government agency to see that the assurances given by the colonisers for full development of the colonies are implemented?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) These colonies are not approved colonies. In fact, their land is low-lying and liable to flooding and it is not proposed to be urbanised.

(b) This is entirely a matter between the coloniser and the purchaser of plots.

Palai Central Bank Ltd.

3934. Shri Ramsheshar Prasad Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the result of judicial action taken against the ex-Directors of the Palai Central Bank Ltd.;

(b) the amount of expenses incurred so far on the official Liquidator of the Palai Central Bank Ltd. and his staff; and

(c) when the next dividend will be paid to the depositors of the said Bank?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhri): (a) On a misfeasance application filed by the Official Liquidator under Section 45H of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and Section 543(1) of the Companies Act, 1956 against the directors, auditors