

Backlog of SC/ST/OBC cleared

Year	Group 'C'			Group 'D'		
	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC
1995-96	704	587	928	1067	1420	528
1996-97	961	810	1415	1084	907	853
1997-98	617	548	932	1207	1160	255

Accrual of vacancies and filling of the same is a continuous process.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

Linking of Noida with Rail Network

741. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made so far in regard to link Noida (U.P.) with rail network;

(b) whether the Government have since received the survey report in this regard;

(c) if so, the date on which the Government have received the survey report; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) :

(a) The survey has been taken up.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Survey is still in progress.

[English]

State Level Regulatory Bodies for Housing Sector

742. SHRI R.S. GAVALI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have asked the States to set up State Level regulatory bodies for housing sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide fiscal concession for housing sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Instead the National Housing and Habitat Policy, 1998 emphasises that the State Governments would liberalise the legal and regulatory regime to give a boost to housing and supporting infrastructure.

(c) The National Housing and Habitat Policy, 1998 says that the Central Government would provide fiscal concessions for housing, infrastructure, innovative and energy saving construction materials and methods and also set up a regulatory mechanism to ensure that the concessions are correctly targetted and utilised.

(d) The fiscal concessions are provided year to year basis during the budget preparation. Concessions provided for 1998-99 Budget are as per statements enclosed.

Statement-I

Fiscal Concessions Allowed under Income Tax/Wealth Tax Acts to Promote Housing Activity

- Urban vacant land held, as stock-in-trade exempted from wealth tax for a period of seven years. (Section 2(ea) of Wealth Tax Act). (The existing facility was for five years).
- Rental properties exempted from wealth tax provided the property had been rented out for at least 300 days. (This concession has been allowed to promote rental housing).
- Against the suggestion for allowing deduction of 33% of rental income under section 24 I.T. Act. Deduction for repairs and collection charges has been increased from 20% to 25%. (Section 24 of Income Tax Act).
- Deductions for interest on borrowed capital in case of self occupied property have been

increased from Rupees Fifteen Thousand to Rupees Thirty Thousand. (Section 5 (VI) Income Tax Act).

- Carry forward of losses from House Property against future income under the same head allowed for Eight Years (Section 71 of Income Tax Act).
- Against the demand for deduction of full amount of rent paid in excess of 10% of total income for furnished or unfurnished residential accommodation for self occupation, Section 80 GG of Income Tax Act is being re-introduced.
- Against the demand for treating housing and construction activity as infrastructure for the purpose of tax holiday for companies under Section 80-1A of Income Tax Act, tax holiday has been allowed for approved housing projects-100% deduction from profits for first five years and 30% deduction for subsequent five years.
- Concessions given under Section 38(1) (VIII) available to HFIs for transferring 40% of their total income to special reserve has been allowed to be continued.

Statement-II

Recommended Changes in Rates of Excise Duty

S. No.	Description	Existing Chapter	Recommended Chapter	Comments
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ready mix concrete	13%	Nil	Accepted
2.	Resin bonded pultruded jute composite doors and window frames and shutters.	18%	Nil	Accepted
3.	Rubberwood and poplar wood based door and window frames and shutters.	18%	Nil	
4.	Goods in which more than 25% by weight of redmud, press mud or blast furnace slag or one or more of these materials have been used.	8%	Nil	Accepted

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Goods in which more than 25% by weight of flyash or phosphogypsum or both have been used.	8%	Nil	Accepted
6.	(a) Cement bonded particle boards	8%	Nil	Accepted
	(b) Jute particle boards	8%	Nil	
	(c) Rice-Husk boards	8%	Nil	
	(d) Glass fibre reinforced gypsum boards (CBC)	8%	Nil	
	(e) Sisal Fibre boards	8%	Nil	
	(f) Bagasse boards	8%	Nil	
7.	Prefabricate building elements and components comprising of concrete (solid or hollow), slabs, lintels, beams, stairs, and chajjas manufactured in a factory.	8%	Nil	**

**Detailed Tariff is to be studied for these recommendations.

Continuation of Previously Granted Exemptions to Building Materials and Housing Sector

Excise Duty.

1. Notification No. 4/97 dt. 1.3.97 General Exemption No. 66 serial No. 154, 155 and 159. **Accepted***
2. Notification No. 5/97 dt. 1.3.97 General Exemption No. 67, serial No. 66 and 119 with amendments as stated in A, B, C above.

Custom Duty.

1. Notification No. 11/97-Cus dated 1.3.97 General Exemption No. 121 Serial No. 117 Condition No. 70 List 5. **Accepted**

List 5 (See S. No. 132 of the Table)

- (i) Brick press with accessories like moulds, pallets, stackers, clamping devices or the like for fly ash sandlime brick capacity 3000-5000 bricks/hr. up and down stroke pressure 300-400 Kgs/sq.m.
- (ii) Flyash block making machine capacity 1000-2000 block/hr. with vibrators, mixer and accessories like moulds, pallets, stackers, clamping devices or the like.
- (iii) Mixer with bottom valve and outlet pipes for cellular concrete.
- (iv) Moulding equipment, cross cutting plant and longitudinal cutting plant, for cellular concrete.
- (v) Centering bridge for moulds.
- (vi) Moving grate sintering strand for light weight flyash cellular concrete.
- (vii) Purification plant including diaphragm, pump, vacuum filter, gas scrubber, for phosphogypsum.
- (viii) Flash calciner.
- (ix) Centrifuge for calcination equipment.
- (x) Partition panel plant.
- (xi) Moulds for phosphogypsum.
- (xii) Drier-cum-calciner.
- (xiii) Edge Runner Mill (for crushing and kneading of clay and Flyash Mixture output 15 to 40 tons per hour depending on the perforation of the grinding plates).
- (xiv) Pan Mixer (output 25 tons per hour).
- (xv) Double Shaft Mixer (for mixing of the material consisting of Clay and Flyash).
- (xvi) Vacuum Worm Press Extrusion machine (capacity of the press up to 36 tons of material per hour).
- (xvii) Mouth piece (for the above vacuum Worm Press with dimensions corresponding to the required type of Bricks or Blocks which will be produced).
- (xviii) Automatic Equipment (for cutting and handing of Bricks between the pressing shop and dryers).
- (xix) Plant & Machinery required for making hollow-core roofing/flooring units.
- (xx) Large-size plants for manufacturing of hollow and solid concrete blocks for walling.
- (xxi) Mechanised hydraulically operated Tunnel Form of Wall forms, Slabforms, Columnforms.
- (xxii) Large-size vibrating—beds with integrated curing and wiretensioning arrangements.
- (xxiii) Vibrating—distributors for speedy production of prefab building parts.
- (xxiv) Hydraulic presses for manufacturing pavement blocks.
- (xxv) Hydraulic heavy duty press for making Hollow and Solid Concrete Blocks.
- (xxvi) Foam Generating Equipment, spiral pumps and Foaming compound for light weight cellular concrete.
- (xxvii) Densified wood fibres plates for door shutters.

*[Translation]***Relaxation of Housing By-Rules**

743. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to relax the housing by-rules in the Capital; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) The building norms in Delhi have been modified. Extracts from the notification No. K-12016/5/79-DDIA/VA/IB dated 23.7.98 amending the Master Plan for Delhi *vis-a-vis* the building norms is attached as statement.