

[English]

Irregularities in ICCR

6052. SHRI A. SAMPATH :

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICCR has engaged two consultants in its office in total disregard of recommendation of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Engagement of Consultants and in violation of instructions of Department of Personnel and Training in this regard;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions, period of engagements, their salaries and other facts and figures related with their engagements may be placed on the Table of the House; and

(c) if it is found that their engagements as consultants have been made in violation of Government of India's instructions in this regard what action is proposed to be taken against the defaulting officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) and (b) The stock taking and physical verification of the books in the ICCR library had not been undertaken for some time. This programme was initiated last year and a retired Librarian, Shri T.C. Tuteja was appointed for this purpose on an honorarium of Rs. 4000/- per month. The appointment was made initially for a period of three months which was subsequently extended with the approval of the competent authorities and shall continue till such time as the stock taking, physical verification and data loading of the library is completed.

Shri Surender Mathur was appointed as Adviser Cultural Programmes at an honorarium of Rs. 3000/- per month to meet expenses on transportation and incidentals on 29th September, 1995 for a period of one year with the approval of President, ICCR and the Governing Body. His term was further extended with the approval of the competent authorities for another period of one year at an honorarium of Rs. 5000/- per month.

(c) The appointments have been made consistent with the ICCR Constitution and with the approval of the competent authorities.

Credit Deposit Rate N.E.

6053. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details credit of deposit rate of banks in each of North-Eastern States;

(b) the details of the constraints impeding the flow of credit to the North-Eastern States; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove these constraints ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the Credit Deposit Ratio (CDR) of all Scheduled Commercial Banks as on the last Friday of March 1996 (latest available) in each of the North Eastern States is given below:-

	C:D Ratio (%)
Arunachal Pradesh	10.4
Assam	39.3
Manipur	53.7
Meghalaya	14.4
Mizoram	16.2
Nagaland	27.4
Tripura	42.1

The Credit Deposit Ratio (CDR) in a particular state or region depends not only on the efforts made by the banks but various other factors including the credit absorption capacity, infrastructural support and overall policy framework in the State. The RBI had set up Task Forces to ascertain the reasons for low CDR in certain States. In respect of States/Union Territories where CDR was low and at the same time, specific Task Forces were not constituted the convenor banks of State Level Bankers' Committee were advised to convene special meetings to discuss and take appropriate steps improve the position. RBI have also reported that as per decision taken in the Regional Consultative Committee for the North-Eastern Region held on 4.1.96 at Shillong to, inter-alia, review the credit flow in the seven States of this region, appropriate follow up action has been initiated.

Allotment of D.D.A. Flats

6054. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1843 dated March 5, 1997 regarding "allotment of DDA flats" and state:

(a) the number of DDA flats allotted out of turn (OTA) in the last five years, yearwise, giving the names of the allottees, specific reasons for making O.T.A., areas where allotted, mode of payment, recommended by whom, etc.;

(b) the number of DDA flats constructed in each of these years and the number of flats allotted therein;

(c) whether the allottee of NPS 1979 is not allowed the choice of locality; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to give preference to the choice area and floor to the registrant and let him wait till he/she gets the choice area and floor and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY

AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The DDA has reported that following allotments have been made on Out of Turn basis during the last five years. Year-wise details are as under:-

1992	55
1993	127
1994	54
1995	19
1996	01

List containing the names of out of turn allotments made and the grounds for such allotments will be laid on the Table of the Sabha. Out of turn allotments are made as per the approved policy and guidelines of the Govt. of India on the recommendations of the Empowered Committee of Govt. of India. All O.T. Allotments are made on cash-down basis unless there is a specific decision taken by the Empowered Committee for allotment on hire purchase basis.

(b) The number of flats constructed and allotted during the last five years are as under:-

Year	Constructed	Allotted
1992-93	7,876	10,218
1993-94	7,661	18,702
1994-95	6,844	10,365
1995-96	2,298	5,933
1996-97	7,743	21,493

The allotment figures shown above contains allotment of surrendered/cancelled flats already allotted. In fact the allotment of flats is a continuous process.

Sometimes it is not possible to allot as many flats as are constructed in the same year because of a number of factors including non-availability of provisions like electricity and water.

(c) No choice of locality has been provided in the Scheme of N.P.R.S.-1979.

(d) There is no proposal to give preference of choice of area of floor in the Scheme of N.P.R.S.-1979.

SAARC Nations

6055. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the objectives of establishing the SAARC and to what extent these objectives have been achieved, so far;

(b) whether there is any proposal to extend the scope of SAARC for establishing a common market and common currency among the SAARC Nations;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) SAARC was established in 1985 with its prime objectives as the promotion of the welfare of the people of South Asia and the improvement of their quality of life, and acceleration of economic growth, social progress, and cultural development in the Region. In pursuance of these objectives, Inter-Governmental negotiations under the South Asian Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA) have seen accelerated progress and Member States have collectively decided to strive towards a South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), preferably by the year 2000 but before 2005 AD in any case. Other areas of economic cooperation include promotion of investment, customs harmonisation, arbitration and standardisation. Technical cooperation in 11 agreed fields of common interest to SAARC Member States is pursued under the integrated programme of action. A mechanism has been set up for eradication of poverty in the region and particular emphasis has been placed on the welfare of women and children, youth, environmental issues and people to people contacts.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No such proposals have been brought for consideration before the SAARC Committee on Economic Cooperation (CEC), which oversees Economic Cooperation issue of SAARC and makes its recommendations to the Council of Ministers.

[Translation]

ESI Hospital in M.P.

6056. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the construction cost, amount spent and present status of construction of hospital being constructed for Labour Welfare under ESI (State Employees Health Insurance Scheme) at Nagda in Ujjain district of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be constructed ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The ESI Corporation has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 2,78,99,401.00 for construction of a 50 bedded ESI Hospital at Nagda (M.P.). A sum of Rs. 261.00 Lakh has already been released for the Project. The building of the Hospital is structurally complete and it is likely to be commissioned during the current year.

[English]

Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority

6057. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to set up Unified Metropolitan