

### **Usurping of Power by Planning Commission**

5476. Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have complained that the Planning Commission is usurping the powers of the National Development Council and the Inter-State Council;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No such complaint has come to the notice of the Planning Commission.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

### **Central Investment Subsidy to Karnataka**

5477. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the claims of Central investment subsidy from Karnataka are lying pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these claims are likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). During the year 1990-91, an amount of Rs. 26.57 cores was reim-

bursed to the Government of Karnataka towards claims under the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme. In respect of claims amounting to Rs. 15.6 lakhs, certain clarifications have been sought from the State Government. Eligible claims out of these will be reimburses when funds become available.

### **Encroachments on Footpaths in NDMC Area**

5478. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:  
SHRI JEEWAN WHARMA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the High Court of Delhi have asked the NDMC to remove the encroachments of footpaths in its area for the use of the pedestrians;

(b) if so, the steps taken to clear all the footpaths in its area;

(c) the time by which all the footpaths will be cleared;

(d) whether there is any proposed to ask MCD to clear all footpaths in their area also;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the National Commission on Urbanisation had also made similar recommendations in their report on the encroachments; and

(g) if so, the steps taken to implement the commission's recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir In C.W. No. 3532/91 filed by squatters residing at Janpathi lane, for restraining NDMC

from removing them, the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi dismissed their writ but directed the Committee to remove all the encroachments from footpath and to protect the public property and thus discharge statutory duties property.

(b) As reported by NCMC, it is conscious of the problems of encroachment on footpaths existing in its area and takes appropriate steps by conducting regular raids under Section 173 (2) of Punjab Municipal Act, 1911 for removal of encroachments. NDMC has removed unauthorised encroachments from Connaught Place., Janpath and Church Road at Central Secretariat, Sarojini Nagar and Chelmsford Road with the help of local police.

(c) As reported by NDMC, a large number of squatters are doing their business in NDMC area under the Strength of the Stay Orders from various Courts. Clearance will depend on the final orders of the various Courts.

Besides, the Supreme Court of India has constituted a Judicial committee under the Chairmanship of Shri G.P. Tharaja, Additional District Judge to scrutinise the claims of the hawkers/squatters operating in NDMC area. Many such applications are pending before the Committee.

*It may, however, be mentioned that the removal of squatters has to be done on a continuous basis and hence no time limit can be given.*

(d) As reported by Municipal Corporation Delhi, encroachment on municipal roads including footpaths/benches are actionable under Section 321 and 322 of Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957. Operations are carried out by MCD from time to time to remove such encroachments in various areas.

(f) National Commission on Urbanisa-

tion has recommended as under:-

"Squatting on public land may be regularised where possible. But land required for public and social purposes must be protected and selective relocation of squatters from ecologically sensitive land must be undertaken".

(g) So far as regulation of squatting is concerned, NDMC and MCD grant Tehbazari and stalls/kiosks to the squatters. As reported by NDMC, a policy has been framed by it which apart from demarcating squatting zones also enumerates methods of rehabilitation of the squatters.

#### **Prices of Essential Commodities**

5479. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the prices of essential commodities including edible oils, sugar vegetables, pulses, onion etc. in retails consumer markets as on February 29, 1992;

(b) the measures proposed to counteract inflationary pressure on these commodities; and

(c) the results achieved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The retails prices of 10 essential commodities have not been reported by the State Civil Supplies Departments as on 29.2.1992. However, the retail prices as on 28.2.92 (Rarest date available) are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c). The Cabinet committee on Prices under the Chairmanship of the Union Finance Minister reviews the supply and