

10

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(1998-99)**

TWELFTH LOK SABHA

**MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT
(DEPARTMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT)**

*[Action Taken Report on the Fourth Report of the Committee on
Urban & Rural Development (1996-97) on Demands for
Grants (1996-97) of the Department of Urban
Development (Ministry of Urban
Affairs & Employment)]*

TENTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

July, 1998/Shravana, 1920 (Saka)

C
28. 3657k
N 8.10.3

Standing Committee on Urban & Rural Development
(1998-99)
Corrigenda to the 10th Report (12th Lok Sabha)

<u>Page</u>	<u>Line No.</u>	<u>for</u>	<u>Read</u>
(v)	2nd line of Para 4	Tenth	fourth
8	first	0	of
19	17 from top	Haryana	Haryana
19	19 from top	meeting	meeting

TENTH REPORT

STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (1998-99)

(TWELFTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS
AND EMPLOYMENT

(DEPARTMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT)

*[Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in
the Fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Urban & Rural
Development (1996-97) on Demands for Grants (1996-97)
of the Department of Urban Development]*

*Presented to Lok Sabha on 29th July, 1998
Laid in Rajya Sabha on 29th July, 1998*



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

July, 1998/Shravana, 1920 (Saka)

Price : Rs. 18.00

PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY
Central Publications (u)
A/c No. 99545

LC

328.36571

N 8.10.3

© 1998 By LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

Published under Rule 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Ninth Edition) and Printed by Shree Enterprises, Delhi.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE (1998-99)	(iii)
INTRODUCTION	(v)
CHAPTER I Report	1
CHAPTER II Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government	8
CHAPTER III Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	29
CHAPTER IV Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee	30
CHAPTER V Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited	34

APPENDICES

I. Minutes of the 16th Sitting of the Committee on Urban & Rural Development held on 23.7.1998	35
II. Analysis of the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 4th Report (11th Lok Sabha).....	37

COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
URBAN & RURAL DEVELOPMENT (1998-99)

Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri D. S. Ahire
- *3. Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay
4. Dr. Shafiqur Rahman Barq
5. Shri Padmanava Behera
6. Shri Sriram Chauhan
7. Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan
8. Shrimati Malti Devi
9. Shri Ramkrushna Suryabhan Gavai
10. Shri Mitha Lal Jain
11. Shri Akbar Ali Khandokar
12. Shri Vinod Khanna
13. Shri Subhash Maharia
14. Shri Bir Singh Mahato
15. Shri Subrata Mukherjee
16. Shrimati Ranee Narah
17. Shri Chandresh Patel
18. Shri Rameshwar Patidar
19. Shrimati Jayanti Patnaik
20. Shri Mullappally Ramachandran
21. Shri Gaddam Ganga Reddy
22. Dr. Y. S. Rajasekhar Reddy

*Nominated *w.c.f.* 11.6.98

23. Shri Ramjidas Rishidev
24. Shri Chatin Singh Samaon
25. Shri Nikhilaranda Sar
26. Shri I. M. Jayaram Shetty
27. Shri Daya Singh Sodhi
28. Shri Vithal Baburao Tupe
29. Dr. Ram Vilas Vedanti
30. Shri K. Venugopal

Rajya Sabha

31. Shrimati Shabana Azmi
32. Shrimati Vyjayantimala Bali
33. Shri Nilotpal Basu
- *34. Shri Jhumaklal Bhendia
- *35. Dr. M. N. Das
36. Shri N. K. Dasgupta
37. Shri John F. Fernandes
38. Shri C. Apok Jamir
39. Shri Onkar Singh Lakhawat
40. Prof. A. Lakshmisagar
41. Shri Jagdambi Mandal
42. Shri O. S. Manian
43. Dr. Mohan Babu
44. Shri N. Rajendran
45. Shri Suryabhan Patil Vahadane

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Shri G. C. Malhotra | — | <i>Additional Secretary</i> |
| 2. Shri S. C. Rastogi | — | <i>Director</i> |
| 3. Shrimati Sudesh Luthra | — | <i>Under Secretary</i> |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Urban & Rural Development (1998-99) having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present the Tenth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Urban & Rural Development (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of the Department of Urban Development of the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment.

2. The Fourth Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 29th August, 1996. The replies of the Government to all the recommendations contained in the Report were received on 12th November, 1997.

3. The replies of the Government were examined and the Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 23rd July, 1998.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Tenth Report of the Committee (Eleventh Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix-II.

NEW DELHI;
July 28, 1998
Shravana 06, 1920 (Saka)

KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on
Urban & Rural Development.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

This report of the Standing Committee on Urban Rural Development (1998-99) deals with the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Fourth Report on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of the Department of Urban Development (Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment) which was presented to Lok Sabha on 29th August, 1996.

2. Action Taken Notes have been received from Government in respect of all the 27 recommendations which have been categorised as follows:—

- (i) Recommendations/Observations that have been accepted by the Government:

Sl. Nos. 2.4, 3.21, 3.22, 3.28; 3.37, 3.40, 3.41, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.11, 4.13, 5.5, 5.6, 6.3, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 8.3, 8.4, & 8.5.

- (ii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies :

Sl. No. 8.2.

- (iii) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee :

Sl. Nos. 3.10, 3.11, 3.35, 3.36, 5.4.

- (iv) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited:

Sl. No. Nil

3. The Committee are constrained to point out that though Action Taken Replies to recommendations contained in their Report are required to be furnished within a period of six months from the date of the presentation of the Report in the instant case the Government took more than a year to furnish the Action Taken

replies. This delay on the part of the Government detracts from the importance of the recommendations of the Committee. They, therefore, urge the Government to ensure that Action Taken Replies to the recommendations made by them in their Reports are furnished well within the stipulated time particularly when the Report deals with the Demands for Grants.

4. The Committee will now deal with Action taken by the Government on some of the recommendations.

A. Provision of Funds for construction of additional residential accommodation in General Pool

Recommendation (Sl. No. 3.10)

The following is the recommendation of the Committee:

5. "The Committee note that during 1995-96 an allocation of Rs. 40 crore was made available at the B.E. stage which was raised to Rs. 46.07 crore at the R.E. stage. The Committee further note that there is huge gap between demand and availability of residential accommodation in General Pool. The Committee recommend that the Government should provide necessary funds for construction of additional residential accommodation. They also desire to conduct survey periodically to check the subletting of the Government accommodation and get evicted the Government accommodation from the unauthorised occupants and allotment may be made to Central Government employees in the waiting list."

6. The Ministry in their Action Taken Reply have stated:

"Taking into consideration of huge gap between demand and availability of General Pool Residential accommodation, the Government made an announcement in September, 1995 to construct 5000 houses for Central Government employees in Delhi alone during the next 3 years. After overcoming initial problems of availability of land, approval of plan from local body etc., a number of housing schemes have been sanctioned and taken up which are either in progress or in various stages of planning. During the financial year 1996-97, a demand of Rs. 100 crore has been projected, against which budget allocation is only Rs. 42.90 crore. Planning Commission, during discussion at the level of Secretary (UD), had agreed for allotment of Rs. 75 crore

for 1996-97. Case for higher allocation of funds to the extent of Rs. 34.17 crore for the year 1996-97 has been sent. As regard, the matter of subletting GPRA Qtrs., it pertains to, the Director of Estates”.

7. The Committee note with concern the issue regarding availability of funds for construction of additional residential accommodation in General Pool as taken up by the Government. During 1995-96 the allocation was increased at Revised Estimates stage from Rs. 40 crore to 46.07 crore. Further during 1996-97, against the projection for Rs. 100 crore, initial budget allocation was Rs. 42.90 crore. However, after discussion at the level of Secretary (UD), the allocation was increased to Rs. 75 crore. The Committee observe that the lesser allocation would affect the various housing schemes which are in progress. They would like that the Ministry should attach the detailed note expressing the need for the sufficient allocation under the specific project/scheme while sending projections to Planning Commission. It should also be explained as how far the ongoing project/scheme would suffer if the sufficient funds are not allocated.

8. The Committee further note that in reply to the recommendation of the Committee to conduct survey periodically to check subletting of Government accommodation, the Government in their Action Taken Note have stated that the matter of subletting GPRA Qtrs. pertains to Director of Estates. They are surprised to note the reply of the Government as Director of Estates is very well under the jurisdiction of the said Ministry. They are unhappy with the manner in which the Government have tried to sidetrack the main issues raised by the Committee. They would like that the Ministry should take due care of the recommendations of the Committee in future.

B. Allocation of funds for General Pool Non-Residential Accommodation

Recommendation (Sl. No. 3.11)

9. The recommendation stated as below:

“The statement furnished by the Department that there is shortage of General Pool, Office accommodation specially in

four metropolitan cities apart from Bangalore, Hyderabad and Chandigarh. For want of Government accommodation, a number of Central Government Offices are functioning in rented buildings. To overcome this acute shortage, funds to the extent of Rs. 13.00 crore were allotted for construction of additional General Pool Non-Residential accommodation during the year 1995-96. The Committee are of the opinion that funds allocated for construction of additional General Pool Non-residential accommodation is meagre. They desire that the Government should prepare perspective plan and funds for construction of additional General Pool Non-Residential accommodation should be increased. They feel that it will help in reducing the burden of rent on Government for Government Offices."

10. The Ministry in their reply have stated:

"A perspective Plan for 20 years beginning from 3/1993 indicating demand availability and requirement of funds for covering the backlog for General Pool Office Accommodation was prepared. In the 8th Plan requirement of fund to the extent of Rs. 100 crore was projected, but the actual allocation was made for Rs. 25 crore only. The year 1996-97, a demand for Rs. 30 crore was proposed whereas allocation of only Rs. 13.00 crore has been received."

11. The Committee note the lower allocation made by the Planning Commission against the projected funds for the construction of General pool Non-Residential accommodation. During 8th Plan the actual allocation was 1/4 of the projected outlay. Similarly during 1996-97 Rs. 12.50 crore were sanctioned against the projection of Rs. 30 crore. It is observed that lesser allocation affect the planning made by the Government with regard to certain schemes. Further it is noted that construction of non-residential accommodation would reduce the burden of the Government on rent for office accommodation. In view of it, it is desired that the matter regarding higher allocation of funds for non-residential accommodation should be pursued further with the Planning Commission.

C. Providing drinking water and sewerage and sanitation facilities to urban population

Recommendation (Sl. Nos. 3.35 & 3.36)

In the recommendation it has been stated as below:—

12. The Committee are informed that it has been assessed that about 84.32% of the urban population with safe drinking water supply facilities and 50.26% would be provided with sewerage and sanitation facilities in the country by the end of March, 1997". (Sl. No. 3.35)

13. Further it has been stated "The Committee desire that all out efforts should be made for 100% coverage in providing safe drinking water supply in urban areas keeping in view the health and other diseases through contaminated water".

(Sl. No. 3.36)

14. The Ministry in their Action Taken Reply have stated:—

"With a probability of about 84.32% of the Urban population with safe drinking water supply facility and 50.25% would be provided with sewerage and sanitation facilities in the country by the end of March, 1997 provided the required finances are made available to the concerned implementing agencies and the tempo of the work is maintained by them. These targets envisaged to be achieved by the end of the 8th Plan are based on availability of financial resources and the preparedness of the State Govt./Urban local Bodies for taking up the project in their hand. And therefore, it is very likely that these objectives will be achieved by the end of March, 1997."

(Reply to Sl. No. 3.35)."

15. The Ministry have further stated:—

"The working Group for the formulation of Urban Water supply and Sanitation Sector for the 9th Five Year Plan (1997-2002) constituted by the Planning Commission, in its report has recommended 100% coverage of urban population with safe drinking water supply by the end of 9th Five Year Plan, in view of the health hazard and other diseases through contaminated water, various modules depending upon the priority and the likely allocation made to achieve the objectives have been worked out. Coverage of 100% Urban population with safe drinking water supply depends upon the allocation of financial resources for achieving the objectives".

16. The Committee are perturbed to note the vague reply of the Government with regard to the serious issues *i.e.* supply of drinking water and sanitation concerning the basic needs of the urban population. It is observed that the probable targets fixed are conditional *i.e.* subject to the tempo of the work of implementing agencies and of course availability of funds. The Committee note that drinking water and sanitation are the basic challenges of urban society and would like that due attention should be paid to them. As regards allocation of resources, they would like that sufficient funds should be provided for the said issues pertaining to the basic needs of the urban population and desire that the Ministry should pursue with the Planning Commission for the sufficient allocation of funds for the said schemes.

D. Recovery of land from unauthorised encroachment

Recommendation (Sl. No. 5.4)

17. The Committee had observed as below:

"One of the functions of the Land and Development Office is removal of Squatters/encroachments of Government land. The Committee in this connection find with concern that since 1992, the Land and Development Office have been able to recover from illegal occupants only 3.213 acres of land out of total of 91.516 acres under unauthorised encroachment and recommend that the Department may step up its efforts to get the land recovered from unauthorised encroachment speedily so that it could be used for other schemes/purposes. The steps taken in this regard may be furnished to the Committee within a period of six months."

18. The Department in their Action Taken reply stated:

"Land & Development Office, in 1974 and 1975 had transferred vacant/unauthorisedly occupied areas to the Delhi Development Authority for care and maintenance. Thus in respect of areas which were required for utilisation, eviction squad was available in the DDA. Further, in respect of the remaining lands, as and when required, help of eviction squad of the DDA is taken and land cleared of the encroachments for further utilisation."

Though efforts were made for creation of the Demolition Squad in the L & DO, but due to budgetary constraints, it would not be possible to do so. However, with view to ensure that the lands under the control of L & DO are protected from unauthorised encroachments, proper watch and ward is kept through the fields staff.

Further, as and when encroachment takes place, further action for removal thereof is taken through the help of local police, DDA and Special Task Force, recently constituted under the jurisdiction of the Lt. Governor of Delhi to keep check on various unauthorised encroachments on Government lands. In the process, necessary infrastructure as and when required is made available."

19. Pursuant to the concern expressed by the Committee for the low pace of recovery of land from illegal occupants, the Government in their Action Taken reply have furnished the position of existing infrastructure available for the purpose. The Committee are not satisfied with the way the Government have taken their recommendations. They feel that unauthorised encroachment of land is a serious issue and should be taken care of accordingly. In view of it, they reiterate their recommendation to step up efforts for the recovery of land from the unauthorised occupants and concrete action taken in this regard should be furnished before the Committee.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATION THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Para No. 2.4)

The Committee note that after the reorganisation of the erstwhile Ministry of Urban Development, the Departments of Urban Development and Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation were created in March, 1995. This Department is responsible for implementation of specific Urban Development Schemes like Mega City, IDSM Towns, Water Supply & Sanitation etc. The Ministry was bifurcated with a view to give sharper focus and attention to development in Urban areas. The Committee are of the view that though the Department is of recent origin, the Urban Development Programmes were being implemented by it since long, hence it is imperative on the part of the Department to continue giving sharper focus and implement various Programmes in an earnest way in future too as it is proposed to give higher priority to these programmes in the IXth Plan also.

Reply of the Government

To give a sharper focus and implement various urban development programmes in an earnest way in future, the Deptt. of Urban Development has suggested to the Planning Commission to treat urban infrastructure—water supply, sewerage & sanitation, drainage, urban transport, satellite/counter magnet city development, etc.—as belonging to the “core” sector. It has been impressed that urban infrastructure is very vital for the high productivity of urban areas. Considering that urban India contributes nearly 45% of the gross domestic product (GDP) of the country while containing only 1/4th of its population, there is a need to provide higher priority for urban development programmes in the II Plan. The Working Group on Urban Development including Urban Transport constituted by the Planning Commission has

emphasised these points in addition to highlighting the unimplemented recommendations of the National Commission on Urbanisation regarding higher allocation of Plan funds for the urban development sector under Central and State Plans.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 3.21)

The Committee note that Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment are yet to place a proposal for seeking investment approval to the project before the Cabinet. The Committee further note that the final investment approval of the Government of India should be conveyed to the Government of Japan and OECF Mission by 20th August, 1996 to enable them to include the Project in 1996-97. The Committee would like to know whether the final investment approval of the Government of India have been conveyed to OECF (Japan). The Committee also recommend that all out efforts should be made for funding and implementations of the Project in stipulated time.

Reply of the Government

Investment approval to the Delhi MRTS project was accorded by the Union Cabinet on September 17, 1996. This decision of the Government of India has already been conveyed to the OECF (Japan). Based on the Cabinet approval, an agreement has been signed between the OECF (Japan) and the Government of India on 25.2.1997 for providing Yen loan for the project amounting to 14,760 million Japanese Yen (Rs. 478.78 crores). This amount of loan will be available from 1997-98 to 2000-2001.

Since the investment approval for the project by the Union Cabinet, broadly following progress has been achieved towards the implementation of the project.

- (i) A total sum of Rs. 123.8 crores has been released by the Government of India and Government of NCT of Delhi towards the equity of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Limited—the company responsible to implementing the project—for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) The process of land acquisition for the Delhi MRTS project has already started with the first set of notifications under the Land Acquisition Act issued.

- (iii) The selection of General Consultant for the project is under process.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 3.22)

The Committee further note that a study on 'Traffic & Transport Policies and Strategies in Urban Areas in India' was entrusted to M/s RITES in November, 1993 at a total cost of Rs. 1.25 crores and a draft report has been submitted by them for discussion. The final report is under preparation. The Committee recommend that the Government to prepare final report immediately and the Committee may be apprised of the out come.

Reply of the Government

The study on 'Traffic and Transportation Policies and Strategies in Urban Areas in India' was entrusted to RITES in November, 1993. The draft report, completed by RITES in 1996 covers a wide range of aspects as listed below:

1. Conduct of Surveys/Studies and Characteristics in Sample Cities.
2. Generalisation of Urban Transport Scenario.
3. Urbanisation Policy.
4. Landuse Transport Planning and Transport Strategy.
5. National Level Forecast of Urban Transportation Scenario.
6. Public Transport.
7. Road Infrastructure Development.
8. Intermediate Public Transport.
9. Non-Motorised Transport.
10. Personalised Transport.

11. Goods Transport.
12. Inter-Modal Integradation.
13. Transport System Management.
14. Parking.
15. Road Accident and Safety.
16. Energy in Urban Transport.
17. Environment.
18. Financing of Urban Transport.
19. Institutional Strengthening.
20. Human Resource Requirement and Development.
21. Legal Issues.
22. National Urban Transport Information System.

Each of the above aspects require in-depth and detailed scrutiny/ study and has to be examined from various angles. Examination of the report is in progress.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 3.28)

The Committee note that the Ministry have taken some measures for implementation of the Mega City Scheme. It has been observed by the Committee that the State Government of West Bengal, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have released their annual share of 25% of fund for the Mega City Schemes so far. In the case of Karnataka, for the year 1995-96 the State Government have approved the release their share (Rs. 15 crores) to the nodal agency, but the actual release is yet to be done. The Committee are of the view that all-out efforts should be made for timely release of funds by the State Governments. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the progress/achievements of the projects/schemes in all the mega cities under the Mega City Scheme so far.

Reply of the Government

It is a fact that in the case of Karnataka for the year 1995-96, the State Government have approved released of their share of Rs. 14 crores to the nodal agency but the actual release is yet to be done. The financing pattern under the Mega City is 25% Central Share : 25% State Share : 50% Institutional Finance. The Central Share released to Karnataka during 1994-95 is Rs. 20 crores. The State Share released is Rs. 20.00 crores. However, for 1995-96 the Government of India has been impressing on the State Govt. for the adjustment of State Share for 1995-96. For all the other four mega cities in the country where projects are being implemented, the States have released their required shares. Through periodical review meetings and correspondence, State Governments are impressed upon regarding the release of State Share and implementation of projects as per scheme guidelines.

All the Mega City Schemes have established State Level Sanctioning Committees. They have all adopted a regorous process of project formulation and appraisal. Sanctioning Committees in all the mega cities have met and approved projects. The estimated costs of projects approved and expenditures made by 31.3.1996 are as follows:

(Rs. in Crores)		
Name of Mega City	Estimated cost	Expenditure incurred
Mumbai	266.83	82.02
Madras	132.93	54.33
Hyderabad	251.17	47.30
Bangalore	260.23	0.02
Calcutta	334.50	79.31

Direct and indirect cost recovery measures have been adopted for building the Revolving Fund under the Mega City Scheme.

To cite an example under the Hyderabad Mega City Scheme, special development charges are now levied on land to mop up about Rs. 15 crores per year for contribution to the Mega City.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 3.37)

The Committee further note that it has been proposed to take up conventical, sewerage, sewage treatment and drainage scheme in 100 selected cities during the Ninth Five Year Plan for which an outlay of Rs. 18,008 crores will be required as in the report of National Mission on Environment health and sanitation. The Committee recommend that adequate funds should be allocated so that these schemes are implemented smoothly. The Committee also recommend that the priority should given for water supply and sanitation in IXth Five Year Plan.

Reply of the Government

In view of the constraints of resources the Working Group for the formulation of the 9th Five Year Plan with respect to Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Sector recommended provision of sewerage, sewage treatment and drainage facilities in 100 selected cities during the 9th Five Year Plan for which an outlay of Rs. 18,008 crores were assessed. This assessment was passed on the recommendations contained in the Report of National Mission on Environmental Health and Sanitation.

The objective of providing sewerage, sewage treatment and drainage facilities in 100 selected cities could be achieved only when the imposed outlay of Rs. 18,008 crores is provided as recommended by the working Group.

The Report of the Working Group on Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Sector for 9th Five Year Plan (1997—2002) has already been forwarded to the Planning Commission by the Ministry for taking up necessary action on the recommendations contained in the Report. However, the provision of outlays for achieving the set objective of the Working Group for the 9th Five Year Plan depends upon the outcome of the National Development Council (NDC) which is the

highest body in policy making for the developmental plans in so far as the allocation of resources and also for setting up the objective to be achieved during the plan.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 3.40)

The Commission have noted that the centrally sponsored scheme of liberation of scavengers was started in 1989-90 and the Ministry have been able to declare the States of Karnataka, Kerala, Gujarat and Tripura only as scavengers free. They are dismayed at the slow implementation of the scheme in this regard and recommend that concerted efforts should be made to liberate scavengers in the remaining States within a period of three years. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken and progress made in this direction.

Reply of the Government

During the year 1995-96 & 1996-97, so far three meetings have been held by the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment with the State Secretaries, Ministry of Welfare & Planning Commission & HUDCO to review the physical and financial performance of the scheme. All the State Governments have been repeatedly requested to send regular quarterly progress report and suggestions for modification of the scheme in view of the practical problems being faced by them in its implementation. Suggestions received from the State Governments have already been incorporated in the report of the Working Group on Water Supply & Sanitation Sector for 9th Five Year Plan and sent to Planning Commission for their consideration.

Secretary(UD) in a recent meeting held with the State Government representatives requested them to focus the scheme on conversion of dry latrines first so that the objective of liberating the scavengers is achieved. All State Governments have also been requested to send regular progress reports.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 3.41)

The Committee note that during Eighth Five Year Plan, it was one of the objectives to construct all dry latrines into low cost sanitary latrines. They are surprised to find that since 1992-93 upto 1995-96 only 23% of the units have been sanctioned for conversion by HUDCO and only 7% of the sanctioned unit have been completed and 57,750 units are still under progress. The Committee express their strong concern at the lackadaisical approach of the Ministry in fulfilling the objective set forth for the Eighth Plan and recommend that concrete steps be taken to fulfil the remaining task of conversion of dry latrines into low cost sanitary latrines.

Reply of the Government

Considering the task ahead and the slow progress made so far, concerted efforts are being made to step up the implementation of Low Cost Sanitation Scheme for liberation of scavengers for conversion of all the remaining dry latrines into water seal toilets.

A series of meetings have been held by the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment with the State Secretaries, Ministry of Welfare & Planning Commission & HUDCO to review the physical and financial performance of the scheme. After these deliberations, in view of the practical problems faced by different States, certain suggestions have been made towards reorientation of the approach and modification of the existing guidelines for implementation of the scheme. The modifications have already been incorporated in the report of the Working Group on Water Supply & Sanitation Sector for 9th Five Year Plan and sent to the Planning Commission for their consideration.

Apart from the above, these review meetings with the State Governments have also served as a forum for open discussion and removal of any doubts coming in way of the implementation of the scheme. In a recent meeting, Secretary (UD) has emphasised that all State Governments should make concerted efforts to implement the scheme. The State Governments have been asked to send regular progress reports so that the efforts made in this direction can be reviewed/known. For stepping up the pace of the scheme, Minister of State for Urban Affairs & Employment's has written to the Chief

Ministers of Various States Cleats and as a follow-up, Secretary (UD) has written to the Chief Secretaries concerned.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 4.5)

“The Committee recommend that the Government should come up with a planned and time bound programme to attract the private sector investment. The Government should also take up the matter with the appropriate authority for enhancement of outlay for the project”

Reply of the Government

The NCR Planning Board has already drawn up a time bound programme on the recommendations of the sub group on NCR under the working group of urban development set up by the Planning Commission. A sum of Rs. 26089 crores has been proposed during Ninth Plan period on the development projects in following manner:—

Sl. No.	Sector	Proposed investment (Rs. in crores)	% to total
1	2	3	4
1.	Central Sector		
	A. M/o Surface Transport	601	
	B. M/o Railways	985	
	C. M/o Communications	1300	
	Sub total	2886	11.06
2.	State Sector		
	A. Haryana	941	
	B. Rajasthan	206	

1	2	3	4
	C. Uttar Pradesh	951	
	D. NCT Delhi	2035	
	Sub total	4133	15.84
3.	NCR Planning Board	4070	15.60
4.	Private Sector	15000	57.50
	Total	26089	100.00

Basic projects which are essentially required to trigger off further development are being largely taken up in the Ninth Plan. The emphasis is on the development of core infrastructure to a substantial degree so that these could attract investment by the Private Sector which is essential for the overall development especially the economic activities for generating adequate employment opportunities to help the deflection of population.

Details of proposed projects under private sector are given below:—

Sl. No.	Projects	Rs. in crores
1	2	3
A	Core Infrastructure	
1.	Captive Power Generation	1500
2.	Regional Expressways [236 km]	1000
3.	Perimeter Expressways [85 km]	200
4.	Elevated Expressways [45 km]	750
5.	NCR University [Endowment Fund]	30
	Sub total	3480

1	2	3
B	Township Development	
6.	Housing [2 lakh units]	7000
7.	Industry/Trade [3 lakh jobs]	2500
8.	Internal and external Development	1000
9.	Social Infrastructure	1000
	Sub total	11500
	Total	14980
		or to say 15000

The funding of the proposed outlay under central sector has been taken up with the Planning Commission, M/o Urban Affairs and Employment, Surface Transport, Railways and Communications. State Governments of Haryana, Rajasthan, U.P. and NCT Delhi are being requested to make above provisions in their respective plans for timely implementation of Ninth Plan proposals.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 4.6)

The Committee note that over the years the areas of Old Delhi is a neglected one. The Committee desire that requisite funds be made available for the development of Old Delhi. They desire that a separate Development Board for Old Delhi be constituted for the proper development of the area.

Reply of the Government

As per MPD-2001, there is a proposal for a specific renewal scheme for Old Delhi based on physical and socio-economic development as

a planning tool for upgradation of environment in these areas and for provision of minimal level of infrastructure. DDA has been advised to initiate action for preparation of such an urban renewal scheme for the walled city. In view of this, no separate Development Board for Old Delhi is considered to be necessary as it will result in multiplicity of authorities.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/
1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 4.7)

“The Committee have noted with concern that the Sub-regional Plans for Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan have been approved so far and desire that the plans for Delhi and Haryana be finalised and approved speedily without any further loss of time.”

Reply of the Government

The Sub-regional Plan of Haryana has been received and discussed in the 32nd Planning Committee meeting held on 18.2.94, 34th Planning Committee held on 9.11.94, and Sub-group meeting held on 6.12.95. In all these discussions, the Government of Haryana was asked to submit details of sub-regional landuse plan including 2 km. green belt along the border of NCT Delhi. In the 20th meeting of the NCRPB, the Chief Minister of Haryana sought relaxation of these two conditions for finalisation of the Sub-regional plan. Consequently a meeting was held on 18.9.96 with the Secretary, Town Planning Department, Government of Haryana and this matter was discussed at length. Now Haryana Government is required to submit a revised sub-regional plan for consideration and approval.

The Sub-regional plan of NCT Delhi submitted by GNCT-Delhi is being examined by an expert Sub-group and its three technical sub-committees on landuse, transport and industries. The meeting of Sub-committees of landuse was held on 12.6.1996, industry on 21.5.1996 and transport on 10.6.1996. These sub-committees have submitted their recommendations which are to be considered by the sub-group for onward transmission to NGCT-Delhi for

finalisation of their Sub-regional Plan and its submission to the NCRPB for approval.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII, dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 4.11)

The Centrally sponsored scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) was initiated for the improvement of infrastructure in selected towns having growth potential in order to enable them to emerge as regional centres of economic growth, employment and facilities arresting migration of population to large Cities/Towns. The Committee regret to note that the Government have been emphasising on physical targets with meagre investment and the funds remaining unspent and desire that the Government should reduce the physical targets but provide them with, complete infrastructure and other facilities, in order to arrest the migration of population to the big cities. The Committee also note that allocation of Rs. 35 crores is not sufficient for improvement of infrastructure in the scheme and would like to recommend that the outlay should be substantially stepped up.

Reply of the Government

Under the new IDSMT Guidelines, adopted in 1995, the value of projects has been substantially enhanced as compared to the old pattern. The new pattern is as follows:

Category of Town (Population)	Project cost	Central assis- tance (Grant) Max.	State Share (Grant)	HUDCO/ Financial Institu- tional Loan/Other Sources
A (< 20000)	100	48	32	20 (20%)
B (20000-50000)	200	90	60	50 (25%)
C (50000-100000)	350	150	100	100 (29%)
D (1-3 Lakhs)	550	210	140	200 (36%)
E (3-5 Lakhs)	750	270	180	300 (40%)

In view of this higher size of projects combined with adoption of 'whole town' approach, the number of towns to be covered under present IDSMT will be drastically reduced compared to the old IDSMT Scheme. Since IDSMT funds are released in three or four instalments, the same towns will be covered over a period of 3 or 4 years and Central assistance will be released to the same towns every year till approved projects are executed. This is so since the capabilities for executing projects in small and medium towns are limited and a phased approach is adopted under the new Scheme.

The allocation of Rs. 35 crores is not sufficient for improvement of infrastructure under IDSMT Scheme. Accordingly, when IDSMT guidelines were drafted and placed before the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs in 1995 and allocation of Rs. 100 crores for the Scheme per year was suggested. However, due to scarcity of funds the allocation could not be stepped up and was kept at Rs. 35 crores. The Planning Commission has been addressed to enhance the allocation for the scheme from Rs. 35 Crores to Rs. 100 Crores per year.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/
1/96-BT, Vol. VII, dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 4.13)

(iii) Delhi Rent Act 1995

The Committee note with concern the casual approach of the Government in the implementation of the Delhi Rent Act, 1995 which was passed by both the Houses of Parliament and assented by the President. The Committee note that reservations have been made by various organisations/individuals/NGOs. Besides Delhi Government have also expressed their reservations about the implementation of the Act. They would like to recommend that the Act should be notified after considering the views of various organisations and Delhi Government.

Reply of the Government

The Delhi Rent Control Act, 1958 has been comprehensively revised in order to balance the interests of the landlords and the tenants. Delhi Rent Bill, 1994 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 26.8.1994. It was referred to Standing Committee on Urban and Rural Development and was passed by the Rajya Sabha on 29.5.1995. The Lok Sabha cleared the Bill on 3.6.1995. Assent of the President to the

Delhi Rent Bill, 1994 was received on 23-8-95. Hence it became Delhi Act, 1995. The Act has not been notified so far to bring it into force.

2. Soon after the Bill was passed by the Parliament, representations were received from a section of trader-tenants demanding changes in some of the provisions of the Act. The Chief Minister of the Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi also appointed in All Party Committee which recommend changes in the Act related to the provisions of registration of tenancies, eviction, inheritability, deemed rent and enhancement of rent.

3. On the other hand we have been receiving a large number of letters and delegations from House owners requesting early notification of the Act. All the issues are under examination of the Government and The Delhi Rent Act, 1995 will be brought into force subject to the final decision taken by the Government in the matter. No definite time frame can be given in this regard.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 5.5)

In this connection, the Committee is equally perturbed to note that the technical wing of the Land and Development Office perform the duty of keeping vigilance on the land under their administrative control in addition to other functions. The Committee recommend that separate wing may be created for the purpose of removal of encroachment so that the land is recovered at a faster pace from illegal encroachment.

Reply of the Government

Technical Wing of L&DO is headed by Engineering Office of the rank of Executive Engineer, 2 Asstt. Engineers, one Building Officer (AE), 13JEs, One Sr. Surveyor and 7 Surveyors. In addition there are 5 Draftsmen and one Sr. Draftsman.

In view of the existing strength of the Organisation, one Asstt. Engineer and Surveyor and Draftsman have been assigned the job of land survey, protection of land under control of L&DO, preparation of site plans, updating of the layout plans and reflecting therein the changes in land use as made under the provisions of Master Plan by

the DDA. Thus, a separate team exists for taking care of the lands and related developments.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/
1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 5.6)

The Committee have been informed that out of total 46,284 residential leasehold properties, only 6463 properties have since been converted into freehold. This is yet another area of concern. The Committee recommend that the Department should evolve a time bound programme to convert the leasehold properties into freehold and provide some incentives to the leaseholders. They also desire that the leasehold conversion scheme affects a very large sections of the capitals population. The last date for conversion has been given as 31st August, 1996. It is recommended that there should not be any time limit for converting leasehold properties to freehold properties.

Reply of the Government

Action Taken

For disposal of applications received for conversion of leasehold tenure of land into freehold, time-frame has been prescribed and all out efforts are made to ensure that the applications are disposed of within a period of three months from the date of receipt. The scheme of conversion being optional, the leases are free to be covered by the lease terms or opt for conversion after weighing the merits and demerits of the two systems. Further about 11,000 applications have been disposed of. All out efforts are being made to clear the pending applications despite acute shortage.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/
1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 6.3)

The foundation work of the Parliamentary Library Project at a cost of Rs. 20.68 crores was scheduled to be completed by April,

1996. The target date was shifted to 30.9.1996 reportedly due to difficult site conditions. The expenditure on the system is now expected to be Rs. 24 crores. The Committee are surprised over the manner in which the Department has shifted that completion date of the foundation work which resulted in cost escalation also. The Committee are of the considered view that if the department had started the work with proper planning, the work would have been completed within the target date and the cost estimated. They recommend that the Department should make concerted efforts so that the project is completed on schedule. The Committee would like to be apprised of the steps taken in this regard.

Reply of the Government

The tendered cost of the foundation work of Parliament Library Project is Rs. 20.68 crore. The increase in expected completion cost of this work is mainly due to variation in quantities of different items of work on account of peculiar, unpredictable site conditions and marginal increase in scope of work. Even in normal circumstances, the foundation work offers more uncertainties when compared to superstructure work. Parliament House being too close and ground water table being high the unique Foundation System with Diaphragm wall, rock anchors and curtain grouting which is highly specialised in nature, is being executed for the first time in CPWD and under the circumstances, some deviations were inevitable.

It is not correct to attribute that the cost has gone up only because of shifting of target date from April, 1996 to 30th September, 1996. The agreement provides for escalation in prices of material and wages of labour even during the stipulated period of contract.

The superstructure work except Domes, Interiors etc. has been awarded in July, 1996. The project is being closely monitored at appropriate levels and all possible steps are being taken to augment the resources, wherever necessary with a view to complete the work by 31.12.98.

Recommendation (Para No. 7.4)

The Committee note that 21 Govt. Presses are under the administrative control of the Directorate of Printing. The task of modernisation of these Presses was taken up in a phased manner. Out of these only 14 Govt. Presses have either been fully modernised or partly modernised. The six presses are yet to be taken up for modernisation. The Committee take a serious view of the situation prevailing in the Directorate regarding the modernisation of Govt. of India Presses and recommend that the matter of modernisation of the Govt. Presses should be accorded top most priority so that the remaining presses are modernised speedily. They also desire that the machines which have become obsolete may be replaced, the amount of depreciation fund available with the Govt. of India Presses may be utilised properly and the unfilled vacancies be filled up without further delay.

Reply of the Government

The Government of India Press, Mayapuri, which was a 100% Letterpress unit is now under modernisation and modernisation programme is likely to be completed by 1997.

Out of remaining 5 Presses, in respect of 3 Presses *i.e.* Govt. of India Press, Temple Street, Calcutta, Govt. of India Forms Unit, Santragachi, Govt. of India Press, Shimla decision for closure/modernisation is under consideration. The remaining 2 Presses *i.e.* Publication Unit, Santragachi and Govt. of India Press, Gangtok will be considered for retention/modernisation after the closure/modernisation issue is decided in respect of other three Presses.

As regards filling up of posts, there is blanket ban from the Ministry of Finance for filling up of any post lying vacant for more than one year, *i.e.* any post lying vacant for more than one year is deemed to have been abolished. However, essential posts are being filled up, keeping in view the overall requirement.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/
1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 7.5)

The Committee find that the Directorate of Printing is making all out efforts to procure best quality papers and right quality of paper is being used depending upon the utility value of the publications. Govt. of India Presses are making all efforts to improve the quality of printing work by using latest offset technology. The Committee are of the considered opinion that by imparting suitable training to the concerned employees of the Presses and using the latest technology the quality of the printing work can be improved to a desired level. They recommend that a time bound comprehensive programme may be worked out for better implementation. They would like to be apprised of the steps taken in the matter.

Reply of the Government

The staff in the Govt. of India Presses are being trained in batches in the following manner:—

- (i) Inplant training;
- (ii) Training at Manufacturers' end;
- (iii) Training at our training camp at Faridabad;
- (iv) Delhi Printers' Association training centre.

Officers and Supervisory staff are also deputed to training courses, Seminars, exhibitions etc. to up-date their knowledge.

Training is a continuous process and are being imparted to the employees as and when required. At the moment inplant training is being given to staff at Govt. of India Press, Mayapuri, New Delhi.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/
1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 7.6)

The Committee have noted with concern that the Directorate is incurring a substantial amount on private printing every year and recommend that the amount on this account may be reduced, if not disbanded altogether.

Reply of the Government

Expenditure on printing jobs to private printers has been reviewed and efforts are being made to reduce the same to 25 lakhs from 45 lakhs.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 8.3)

The Committee note that the Department of Urban Development has changed the guidelines for the coverage of IDSMT Schemes to towns with a population upto 5.00 lakhs. Another Scheme "Mega City Scheme" is also in operation for five metropolitan cities. The scheme of Accelerated Urban Water Supply is under operation for cities having population upto 1.00 lakh. The Committee are surprised to note that there is no scheme for the cities having population between 1.00 lakh and 5.00 lakhs and desire that these cities should also be covered by some schemes in Ninth Five Year Plan.

Reply of the Government

The Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment is implementing the Centrally sponsored scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) with a view to augment Urban Infrastructure in towns with population between 20,000 and 5,00,000. The Ministry in its report of Working Group on Urban Development for the Ninth Five Year Plan, submitted to Planning Commission has recommended extension of Mega City Scheme to other important metropolitan cities provided the allocation for the scheme is stepped up substantially.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 8.4)

The Committee observed that separate provisions are made every year under various heads. Various organisations are engaged in similar nature of work. They desire that all these schemes and policies may be merged and handled by one organisation so that the wasteful expenditure may be avoided and also to have better coordination for effective implementation of schemes/programmes. In this connection

they reiterate their earlier recommendation contained in para 3.2 of 15th Report.

Reply of the Government

The Town and Country Planning Organisation is the technical wing of this Ministry which gives technical advice on town planning matters. They also monitor various schemes being implemented by different divisions in the Ministry. The National Institute of Urban Affairs is basically a research institution and has a different role to play. Therefore, it is not advisable to merge the functions of these two Institutions.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 8.5)

The Committee would also like to recommend that to ensure proper implementation of the different schemes for small, medium and metropolitan cities launched by the Government, the involvement of District Urban Development Authority (DUDA) should be further emphasised.

Reply of the Government

In so far as the Centrally sponsored scheme of Mega City is concerned, the metropolitan development authorities/specialised nodal agencies in the concerned State are the executing agencies. As the scheme is limited to only the particular cities, the need for involving the district urban development authority does not arise. In the case of IDSMT the guidelines provide that the State Urban Development Agency (SUDA)/Urban Development Finance Corporation or a similar institution constituted at State level will handle all the funds released under the Scheme. The guidelines also provide for coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the IDSMT/Urban Development Projects at the district level to be undertaken by the district collectors through District Urban Development Agencies or monitoring cells. The agencies/cells may assist the District Planning Committees constituted under the Constitution (74th) Amendment Act. Thus, it may be seen that the District Urban Development Agencies are already involved in the implementation of the IDSMT Project.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII, dated 12.11.1997]

CHAPTER III

RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES

Recommendation (Para No. 8.2)

The Committee are informed that the main reasons for the shortfalls in achievement of targets/objectives in the Urban Development sector is non-availability of adequate Budget support. The Committee are concerned to note the underspendings of outlays during the year 1995-96. There is a huge gap between the revised estimates and actual expenditure. The Committee fail to understand the rationale behind keeping in view the development of urban areas. The Committee are also concerned to note that there is increase in Non-Plan Expenditure. In case of CPWD, Non-Plan outlay for 1996-97 is almost 5 times of the Plan Expenditure. The Committee would like to be apprised of the reasons for such a hike. The Committee would like to recommend that non-plan expenditure must be curtailed to a reasonable level. The Committee also recommend that Government should ensure that funds earmarked for specific programmes should be utilized fully and not be diverted to any other schemes/programmes.

Reply of the Government

The shortfall in achievement of targets does not pertain to this Directorate as there is savings for 1995-96. The reasons of saving is due to non-supply of paper in full by the Mills, non receipts of bills from firms for the supply of paper, non-filling of vacant posts, non-materialisation of purchase of machinery and tight control over expenditure as a measure of economy.

Increase in non-plan expenditure in various heads over the last 2-3 years is due to Annual increment, Enhancement of D.A. (twice in a year), Enhancement of Train Fare/Freight Charges/Electric Charges/ Escalation of price of raw materials etc.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/
1/96-BT, Vol. VII, dated 12.11.1997]

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

Recommendation (Para No. 3.10)

The Committee note that during 1995-96 an allocation of Rs. 40 crores was made available at the BE stage which was raised to Rs. 46.07 crores at the RE stage. The Committee further note that there is a huge gap between demand and availability of residential accommodation in General Pool. The Committee recommend that the Govt. should provide necessary funds for construction of additional residential accommodation. They also desire to conduct survey periodically to check subletting of Govt. accommodation and get evicted the Govt. accommodation from the unauthorised occupants and allotment may be made to Central Government employees in the waiting list.

Reply of the Government

Taking into consideration of huge gap between demand and availability of General Pool Residential accommodation. Govt. made an announcement in Sept. '95 to construct 5000 houses for Central Govt. employees in Delhi alone during the next 3 years. After overcoming initial problems of availability of land, approval of plan from local body etc., a number of housing schemes have been sanctioned and taken up which are either in progress or in various stages of planning. During the financial year 1996-97, a demand of Rs. 100 crores has been projected, against which the budget allocation is only Rs. 41.90 crores. Planning Commission, during discussion at the level of Secretary (UD), had agreed for allotment of Rs. 75 crores for 1996-97. Case for higher allocation of funds to the extent of Rs. 84.17 crores for the year 1996-97 has been sent.

As regards, matter of subletting GPRA Qtrs., it pertains to Director of Estates.

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/
1/96-BT, Vol. VII, dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 3.11)

The Committee note from the statement furnished by the Department that there is shortage of General Pool Office accommodation specially in four metropolitan cities apart from Bangalore, Hyderabad and Chandigarh. For want of Govt. Accommodation, a number of Central Govt. Offices are functioning in rented buildings. To overcome this acute shortage, funds to the extent of Rs. 13.00 crores were allotted for construction of additional General Pool Non-Residential accommodation during the year 1995-96. The Committee are of the opinion that funds allocated for construction of additional General Pool Non-Residential accommodation is meagre. They desire that Govt. should prepare perspective plan and funds for construction of additional General Pool Non-Residential accommodation should be increased. They feel that it will help in reducing the burden of rent on Govt. for Government Offices.

Reply of the Government

A perspective plan for 20 years beginning from 3/1993 indicating demand, availability and requirement of funds for covering the backlog for General Pool Office Accommodation was prepared. In the VIII Plan requirement of fund to the extent of Rs. 100 crores was projected, but the actual allocation was made for Rs. 25 crores only. For the year 1996-97, a demand for Rs. 30 crores was proposed whereas allocation of only Rs. 12.50 crores has been received.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 11 of Chapter I of the Report)

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII, dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 3.35)

The Committee are informed that it has been assessed that about 84.32% of the urban population with safe drinking water supply facilities and 50.26% would be provided with sewerage and sanitation facilities in the country by the end of March, 1997.

Reply of the Government

With a probability of about 84.32% of the Urban population with safe drinking water supply facility and 50.26% would be provided with sewerage and sanitation facilities in the country by the end of March, 1997 provided the required finances are made available to the concerned implementing agency and the tempo of the work is maintained by them. These targets envisaged to be achieved by the end of the 8th Plan are based on availability of financial resources and the preparedness of the State Govt./Urban Local Bodies for taking up the project in their hand. And therefore, it is very likely that these objectives will be achieved by the end of March, 1997.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 16 of the Chapter I of the Report)

[Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 3.36)

The Committee desire that all out efforts should be made for 100% coverage in providing safe drinking water supply in urban areas keeping in view the health hazard and other diseases through contaminated water.

Reply of the Government

The Working Group for the formulation of Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Sector for the 9th Five Year Plan (1997-2002) constituted by the Planning Commission, in its report has recommended 100% coverage of urban population with safe drinking water supply by the end of 9th Five Year Plan, in view of the health hazard and other diseases through contaminated water. Various modules depending upon the priority and the likely allocation made to achieve the objectives have been worked out. Coverage of 100% urban population with safe drinking water supply depends upon the allocation of financial resources for achieving the objectives.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 16 of the Chapter I of the Report) ❄️

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/1/96-BT, Vol. VII, dated 12.11.1997]

Recommendation (Para No. 5.4)

One of the functions of the Land and Development Office is removal of squatters/encroachment on Government land. The Committee in this connection find with concern that since 1992, the Land and Development Office have been able to recover from illegal occupants only 3.213 acres of land out of total of 91.516 acres under unauthorised encroachment and recommend that the Department may step up its efforts to get the land recovered from unauthorised encroachment speedily so that it could be used for other schemes/purposes. The steps taken in this regard may be furnished to the Committee within a period of six months.

Reply of the Government

Land & Development Office, in 1974 and 1975, had transferred vacant/unauthorisedly occupied areas to the Delhi Development authority for care and maintenance. Thus in respect of areas which were required for utilisation, eviction squad available in the DDA. Further, in respect of the remaining lands, as and when required, help of eviction squad of the DDA is taken and land cleared of the encroachments for further utilisation.

Though efforts were made for creation of the Demolition Squad in the L&DO, but due to budgetary constraints, it could not be possible to do so. However, with view to ensure that the lands under the control of L&DO are protected from unauthorised encroachments, proper watch and ward is kept through the fields staff.

Further, as and when encroachment takes place, further action for removal thereof is taken through the help of local police, DDA and Special Task Force, recently constituted under jurisdiction of the Lt. Governor of Delhi to keep check on various unauthorised encroachments on Govt. lands. In the process, necessary infrastructure as and when required is made available.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 19 of the Chapter I of the Report)

[Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment, O.M. No. H-11013/
1/96-BT, Vol. VII, dated 12.11.1997]

CHAPTER V

RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES
OF THE GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED

—NIL—

NEW DELHI;
July 28, 1998

Shravana 06, 1920 (Saka)

KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on
Urban & Rural Development.

APPENDIX-I

COMMITTEE ON URBAN & RURAL DEVELOPMENT (1998-99)

EXTRACTS OF MINUTES OF THE SIXTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, 23RD JULY 1998

The Committee sat from 1500 hrs. to 1630 hrs. in Committee Room 139, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri D.S. Ahire
3. Dr. Shafiqur Rahman Barq
4. Shri Padmanava Behera
5. Shri Sriram Chauhan
6. Shri Ramkrushna Suryabhan Gavai
7. Shri Vinod Khanna
8. Shri Subhash Maharia
9. Shri Subrata Mukherjee
10. Shri Chandresh Patel

Rajya Sabha

11. Shrimati Shabana Azmi
12. Shri Nilotpal Basu
13. Shri Jhumuklal Bhendia
14. Shri N.R. Dasari
15. Shri Onkar Singh Lakhawat
16. Prof. A. Lakshmisagar

17. Shri O.S. Manian
18. Dr. Mohan Babu
19. Shri Suryabhan Patil Vahadane

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri S.C. Rastogi — *Director*
2. Shrimati Sudesh Luthra — *Under Secretary*
3. Shri PVLN Murthy — *Assistant Director*

I. Further Consideration of Memorandum No. 10

2. *** *** ***

II. Consideration and adoption of draft Action Taken Reports

3. *** *** ***

4. *** *** ***

5. The Committee then considered Memorandum No. 5 and approved the draft report on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourth Report (11th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of the Department of Urban Development of the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment.

III. Future Course of action on the Bills referred to the Committee

6. *** *** ***

7. *** *** ***

8. *** *** ***

9. *** *** ***

10. *** *** ***

11. The Committee then authorised the Chairman to finalise the Reports on the basis of factual verification by the Ministry/Department concerned and present the same to Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.

*** Minutes of Consideration of Memo. No. 10 and Future Course of action on Bills kept separately.

APPENDIX II

[Vide Para 4 of the Introduction]

Analysis of the Action Taken by Government on Recommendations Contained in the 4th Report (11th Lok Sabha)

I.	Total Number of Recommendations	27
II.	Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government	21
	Para Nos. 2.4, 3.21, 3.22, 3.28, 3.37, 3.40, 3.41, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.11, 4.13, 5.5, 5.6, 6.3, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 8.3, 8.4, & 8.5	
	Percentage to the total	(77.78%)
III.	Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	1
	Para No. 8.2	
	Percentage to the total recommendations	(3.70%)
IV.	Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee	5
	Para Nos. 3.10, 3.11, 3.35, 3.36 & 5.4	
	Percentage to the total recommendations	(18.52%)
V.	Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited	Nil
	Percentage to the total recommendations	Nil