

(b) whether cases of violation of procedure/norms have come to the notice of the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to bring transparency in the purchase system ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) to (c) CPWD makes purchases of materials, items, articles, etc., either on call of tenders on competitive basis or through DGS and D rate contracts. These rates are generally not above the open market rates. There are however certain purchases of items of day-to-day use in the offices which are made from Super Bazar or Kendriya Bhandar as per the directions of the Government, purchase cost of which is at times higher than the open market costs. No Government enquiry has been conducted in the matter as the purchase are made as per Codal Rules, Manuals and Government Guidelines.

(d) The procedure followed being fully transparent, no further steps are considered necessary in this regard.

[Translation]

HUDCO Loan

3270. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the agencies which are given loans by HUDCO to distribute the same to the applicants for construction of houses;

(b) the procedure being adopted for grant of loan by these Agencies to the applicants; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to avoid delays in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) The agencies eligible for HUDCO's financial assistance are State Housing Boards, Slum Clearance Boards, Development Authorities, Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and various corporate/cooperatives and community Based Organisations (CBOs), Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and public as well as private sector for implementation of both rural and urban housing and urban development schemes. In case of staff housing schemes, both public and private sector are eligible.

(b) HUDCO provides loans for construction/implementation of projects and not as refinance for distribution among beneficiaries. HUDCO's borrowing agencies, which are primarily State Housing/Water/Sewerage Boards/Authorities, Municipal Council/Corporations obtain HUDCO's finance to implement the project and for allotment to ben-

eficiaries after development of land/plot or construction of houses.

The procedure adopted by the State level agencies to disburse loans or take up construction of homes or plot development varies from State to State and is formulated by the State Governments.

(c) HUDCO disburses loan to the borrowing agencies based on the progress and pace of implementation of project. The progress is monitored by periodical visit of the project sites, as also through the reports submitted by the borrowing agencies. HUDCO disburses loans as soon as the procedure is completed by the borrowing agencies.

Wasteland Reclamation Scheme

3271. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the most of the farmers of the country are deprived of the benefits of waste land reclamation scheme,

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make the scheme effective ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. In the Department of Wastelands Development, there is no wasteland reclamation scheme. However, the Department of Wasteland Development is implementing an Integrated Wastelands Development Projects (IWDP) Scheme for development of non-forest wastelands on watershed basis. Seventy-two projects have been sanctioned under IWDP Scheme during the last three years. Under this scheme, field activities are decided by the user groups, self-help groups at grass root level and most of the farmers living in that watershed area are being benefited.

(c) For successful implementation of programme requires a high level participation of the community. Watershed Association, Watershed Committee, User Groups, Self-help Groups have been constituted. Programmes are being monitored and inspected at the State and Central level.

[English]

Desalination Schemes

3272. SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned and actually released to Tamil Nadu Government for desalination schemes for drinking water during each of the last three years and till date;