

*[Translation]***Rural Development Programmes**

2360. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:
SHRI MAHESH KANODICE:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the participation of people in rural development programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT: (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) No, Sir. The Government have not formulated any separate scheme for the participation of people in rural development programmes, as peoples participation is to be secured in all programmes assisted by this Ministry.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

*[English]***Uprooting of Trees by IAF in Haryana**

2361. DR. SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Air Force has recently uprooted more than 5 lakh trees in the Tilpat Forest range of Haryana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether prior permission of the Ministry of Environment and Forest was obtained; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The Air Force authorities have informed that in 1997 while reactivating the Tilpat Range mostly wild kikar bushes and small size trees were removed as the thick vegetation was obstructing the view of the target area and was also considered a flight safety hazard. However, an inquiry has been ordered to ascertain the full facts.

Construction of New Railway Line from Goalpara to Guwahati

2362. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the construction of new railway line from Goalpara to Guwahati under Northeast Frontier Railway; and

(b) the funds earmarked for implementation of the project?

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) Rail line from Goalpara to Guwahati is making good progress. Earthwork and bridges are nearing completion. Permanent Way Material has been arranged and the work will be completed by March, 1999.

(b) Rs. 368 crs. Has been spent till 31.3.98 and Rs. 66.89 crs. Has been provided as the outlay for the work for 1998-99.

Vacation of Flats/Bungalows

2363. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Ex-Ministers and Ex-MPs have not yet vacated the accommodation occupied by them;

(b) if so, the number thereof;

(c) the action the Government propose to take in this regard; and

(d) the number of Ministers have not yet allotted the Government accommodation as on date?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 17 ex-Ministers and ex-MPs are still in occupation of General Pool accommodation.

(c) Action to get the houses vacated has been taken including initiation of eviction proceedings under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.