

(b) whether acquisition of membership of more than one Group Housing Societies is an offence and contrary to rules of these societies; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government envisage to check such malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Registrar Cooperative Societies, NCTD had informed that complaints relating to dual membership of the individuals in two primary cooperative housing societies of the same class registered under the Delhi Cooperatives Societies Act, 1972, were received in the office of the Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Delhi. Action for cessation of membership has been initiated as membership in more than one Cooperative Housing Society is not permissible under the rules.

The Delhi Cooperative Societies Act, 1972, and Delhi Cooperative Societies Rules 1973, do not apply outside Delhi.

(b) Yes, Sir. Under Rule 28 of Delhi Cooperative Societies, 1973, a member is liable to be removed from the membership of the Society.

(c) Wherever any complaint/information is received, proceedings under the rules are initiated by the Society and the Registrar, Cooperative Societies, NCT of Delhi respectively.

Trade Unions in Railways

5339. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

(a) Whether there is any plan to end multiplicity of Trade Unions in the Railways by invoking one union by secret ballot; and

(b) If so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

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) No decision has been taken in this regard.

(b) Does not arise.

Maintenance of Government Buildings

5340. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government are aware that crores of rupees are shown as spent annually on maintenance of the Government buildings in Delhi but not 10% of the amount actually spent and material of crores of rupees is either stolen or spent only on papers; and

(b) if so, the inquiries instituted, their findings and officials found involved and with what results during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) No, Sir. Expenditure on maintenance of Government buildings in Delhi is actually incurred on materials and services as per prescribed norms.

(b) Does not arise in view of the reply given above.

Houses for Poor

5341. SHRI K.H.MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether this Ministry has any proposal to construct and allot low cost houses to the poorest of the poor people including SC and ST during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Ministry is implementing Indira Awaas Yojana with the objective of providing dwelling units to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, Freed bonded labourers and Non-SC/ST poor below poverty line living in rural areas. A minimum of 60% of houses are allotted to SC/ST poor. Under this scheme, assistance of Rs. 20,000/- in plain areas and Rs. 22,000/- in difficulty/hilly areas is provided for construction of a house. Emphasis is given on adoption of cost effective technologies, materials etc. in construction of houses.

An allocation of Rs. 1600 crores has been made for rural housing during current year 1998-99.

[Translation]

Financial Irregularities in CMRI

5342. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of financial irregularities at any level in Central Mining Research Institution (C.M.R.I.) have come in light during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, yearwise;

(c) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has also detected the irregularities;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the total loss suffered by C. M.R.I. on account of these financial irregularities;

(f) the officers involved in these irregularities alongwith their status; and

(g) the action taken against such officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise
(c) No, Sir.
(d) to (g) Do not arise.

[English]

Reserve of Limestone

5343. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any recent mineral investigations were conducted to assess the BS and SMS grade limestones in Meghalaya;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government propose to enlist overseas participation in the commercial exploitation of limestone deposits in Meghalaya; and
(d) if so, the details thereof in quality and quantity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI) has estimated a total of 2265 million tonnes of limestone in Litang river valley, Jaintia Hills district, Meghalaya as resource potential. Detailed exploration by GSI to recategorise these reserves is going on since 1992-93 and probable reserves of 884 million tonnes are established in a block of 3.5 sq.km. in Litang river valley of which 50% is of Steel Melting Shop (SMS) grade and 25-30% is of cement grade.

(c) and (d) A proposal from M/s. Lum Mawshun Minerals Private Ltd., a company incorporated in Shillong, Meghalaya for mining and export of limestone and shale in foreign collaboration with M/s. Lafarge Surma Cement Ltd., France with 74% foreign equity participation has been received through Ministry of Industry. The proposal is under examination in Department of Mines, The Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) will take a final decision in the matter thereafter.

New Airport near Mumbai

5344. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Bureaucratic hurdles block Rs. 5,870 cr. Cidco projects" appearing in The Observer dated 6th July, 1998;
(b) if so, the facts thereof; and
(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government of India in November, 1997 had constituted a committee to look into the issues related to the second airport for Mumbai Region. In the last Committee meeting held on 13th May, 1998, it was decided that four sites at Mumbai recommended by the Government of Maharashtra, i.e. (1) Navi Mumbai, (2) Existing Mumbai Airport, (3) Mhapan at Sindhudurg District and (4) Mandwa Rewas would be evaluated. Out of the four sites, three sites have been surveyed and technically evaluated i.e. existing Mumbai Airport, Mandwa-Rewas and Mhapan-Sindhudurg. The fourth site i.e. Panvel, where CIDCO proposes to construct new domestic airport is under review. Traffic and site surveys are being undertaken and the final report is likely to be submitted to the Government by early October, 1998.

[Translation]

Purchase of Sub-Standard Lime in BALCO

5345. SHRI PUNNULAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of lime purchased by Bharat Aluminium Company, Korba from the lime industries situated at Korba during 1996-97 and 1997-98, industry-wise;
(b) the amount deducted on account of sub-standard lime purchased from the subsidiary lime industries and other two lime industries which are not subsidiaries of BALCO;
(c) whether these two lime industries were given the order of supplying lime even after the expiry of the tenders; and
(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) has ancillary industries and not subsidiary industries. The quantity of lime purchased in 1996-97 and 1997-98 from Ancillary Industries as well as from units other than ancillary industries is given below:-

Financial Year	Fig. in Tonnes	
	From Ancillary Industries	From other than Ancillary Industries
1996-97	18,763	25070
1997-98	18,957	18798