

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) :  
(a) The Union Carbide Corpn. and Union Carbide India Ltd. deposited an amount of US\$ 420 million and Rs. 68.99 crore respectively as compensation in Reserve Bank of India in Feb. 1989 in the name of the Registrar, Supreme Court.

(b) According to information furnished by the office of the Welfare Commissioner, the total amount of compensation disbursed up to 31.12.1998 was approx. Rs. 996.00 crore.

(c) Since the claims are still under adjudication, it is not possible to make forecast regarding the amount to be utilised.

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### Recognition to Schools for CBSE Syllabus

92. SHRI HIRA LAL ROY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted for giving recognition to schools for CBSE syllabus; and

(b) the number of schools given recognition by the CBSE during the last three years till date in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) As per information furnished by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), the Board grants affiliation to the schools who fulfill various conditions prescribed in the Affiliation Bye-laws of the Board which inter alia prescribe minimum requirements in terms of land, building, management, teaching staff, salaries, syllabus etc. and a no objection certificate from the concerned State Government/UT Administration.

(b) Affiliation has been granted to 862 schools since 1.4.1996 till date.

[English]

### Housing Finance Corporation

93. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Housing Finance Corporation are accepting or renewing public deposits;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor? .

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Housing Finance Corporations are accepting Public deposits in accordance with the directions of National Housing Bank issued under provisions of NHB Act, 1987.

(b) These finance corporations whose net owned fund exceeds Rs. 25 lakh and who have a credit rating of atleast 'A' can accept deposits w.e.f. 01.01.1999, upto 5 times their NOF.

Before 1.1.99, those Housing Finance Corporations which have accepted deposits & which do not meet the above requirements have been given time upto September, 2000 to bring down the level of deposits and advised not to renew the deposits on maturity.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

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### Guru Ghasi Dass Birthday

94. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to declare Guru Ghasi Dass birthday i.e. 18th December a public holiday; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

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### Availability of Land

95. SHRI BRAJAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY  
DR. SANJAY SINH :

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

(a) the total acre of land likely to be available for low income group and middle income group persons after the repeal of the Urban Land Ceiling Act, in each of the metropolitan cities;

(b) the extent upto which the price of surplus land are likely to come down; and

(c) the action the Government contemplate to prevent the hoarding of released land due to repeal of "ULCRA"?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) and (b) The Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act, 1976 was repealed through an Ordinance notified on