

**Allotment of Time to the Candidates of Presidential Election**

\*16. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the candidates for Presidential election had made a request for the allotment of time on All India Radio and television to explain their views regarding the contest; and

(b) the reasons for which the candidates were denied this facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K PANJA): (a) and (b). Shri V. R. Krishna Iyer, one of the Presidential candidates, had made a request that the contesting candidates in the Presidential Election should be provided an opportunity to present their viewpoint to the Nation. The request was examined. The Government presently has a scheme for election broadcast over Akashvani and Doordarshan by recognised political parties during elections to the Lok Sabha/State Assemblies. This scheme was formulated by the Election Commission in consultation with the political parties and was approved by the Cabinet. For extending this scheme to Presidential Election, consultation with the various political parties and the Election Commission was necessary. As there was not enough time for this, Shri Iyer was informed accordingly.

**Research and Development Work on Low Cost Housing**

\*17. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reasearch and development work done

by several institutions in the field of low cost housing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the technique suggested by these institutions have been considered by Government for utilisation;

(d) the effect of such utilisation on costs reduction; and

(e) if not, the reasons for not accepting the said research?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of new and improved technologies for reducing cost of construction; effecting savings in scarce building materials like cement, steel and timber and speedier construction processes have been developed.

(c) Yes. Field trials of suitable techniques have been undertaken by incorporating their use in experimental housing projects taken up under National Buildings Organisation Experimental Housing Schemes by various Construction Departments, State Housing Boards and others.

(d) By the adoption of these innovative construction techniques and materials, saving upto 15 per cent in the cost of construction could be achieved.

(e) Does not arise.

**Calicut Airport**

\*18. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the work completed on the proposed Calicut Airport as on 30th June, 1987; and

(b) whether, in view of the large number of non-resident Indians from the Malabar