

Three broad categories of schemes, viz. urban renewal and reconstruction, slum upgradation and Dharavi development are to be covered. As per progress report received, for the quarter ending September, 1987, 12 schemes of urban renewal have been started and the work of construction of 792 tenements in transit camps has been in progress. Under slum upgradation programme, 32 slum pockets have been identified out of which 5 slum pockets have been taken up to provide off-site amenities and two slum pockets for relocation of slums under the slum improvement scheme. Under Dharavi development, 21 slum pockets have been identified. Community development work has been started in 15 pockets and one scheme for reconstruction has been taken in hand. The work of deepening and clearing the Mithee river has also been started.

[*Translation*]

Special Schemes for Crop Production in Drought Affected Areas

*98. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the continuous drought situation in most parts of the country, Government have chalked out a special scheme to increase the production of those agricultural crops which are suitable to drought conditions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) and (b) Drought being not an uncommon phenomenon in a vast country like ours, research efforts have been continuing to evolve varieties/strains of crops suitable for drought prone areas and which can perform well under moisture stress conditions. Besides, based on the existing technology Government of India have been implementing a number of schemes for soil and moisture conservation, use of drought resistant varieties of seeds etc. which directly or indirectly mit-

igate the effects of drought on agricultural production.

[*English*]

Posting of General Manager in I.T.D.C. Hotels

*99 SHRI SATISH CHANDRA SINHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Tourism Development Corporation has laid down any policy in regard to transfer of its officers to various stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of the Senior Officers and General Managers of I.T.D.C. Hotels are continuing in Delhi for over three years in one particular posting; and

(d) if so, the details therefor and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI). (a) and (b) As per ITDC Recruitment, Promotion & Seniority Rules, all executives are liable for transfer anywhere in India and abroad depending upon the exigencies of work and taking into account the operational interests of the Corporation.

(c) At present none of the senior officers including General Managers of ITDC Hotels is continuing in Delhi for over 3 years in one particular posting.

(d) Does not arise.

Construction of T.V. Tower in Pitampura

*100. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL:
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:

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

(a) the progress made in regard to construction of 235-m high television tower in Pitampura, Delhi;

(b) the time by which the project will be completed and start functioning; and

(c) the original and revised estimated cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) RCC portion of the tower (167.07 metre high) has been completed. The remaining 67.93 metres would be a steel mast which has been fabricated and is being galvanised before erection.

(b) The project is expected to be commissioned in 1988.

(c) The revised approved estimated cost of the project is Rs. 621.69 lakhs compared to Rs. 372.61 lakhs approved in December, 1981.

Herbal Insecticide 'Indiara'

875. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an herbal insecticide 'Indiara' developed by a Pune Scientist, is awaiting licence since 1976, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it has been used on different crops;

(c) if so, the details of the outcome;

(d) whether this extremely stable pesticide has already been tried by Australians;

(e) whether some organisations in USA have also shown interest in this insecticide; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to promote the product in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation grants registration to insecticides under the Insecticides Act, 1968. 'Indiara' a herbal insecticide, was granted provisional registration under the Insecticides Act, 1968, in April, 1987 in favour of M/s. Harringer Bright Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., Pune

(b) and (c). According to the available information, some tests have been conducted on 'Indiara' by Mahatma Phule Agricultural University, Rahuri. Under the limited field trials this insecticide 'Indiara' has been found to be effective against Okra and Cabbage posts.

(d) and (e) No information is available with the Government.

(f) 'Indiara' has been granted only a provisional registration for generation of data on various parameters of safety and efficacy. The question of promotion of this product would arise after the entrepreneur has obtained regular registration on satisfying the Registration Committee (constituted under the Insecticides Act, 1968) on all the relevant parameters of safety and efficacy.

Financial Crisis in Airlines

876. DR. B.L. SHAIKESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the three aviation public sector units, which have so far been major profit earners, are heading towards a financial crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to check this overall trend?