

Slum clearance work in Gujarat

*321. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) whether the Central Government are aware that Gujarat is one of the States where slum-clearance has assumed gigantic proportions with 15 to 25 per cent population in major cities having no regular dwelling units; and

(b) whether the Housing and Urban Development Corporation has sanctioned funds to the Gujarat Slum Clearance Board for its scheme to construct houses for the weaker sections in the State and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Government of India are aware that a certain percentage of the population of the major cities of Gujarat live in slums.

(b) As on 9th June, 1960, the Housing and Urban Development Corporation has sanctioned 18 housing schemes submitted by the Gujarat Slum Clearance Board. The total project cost of these schemes is Rs. 751.24 lacs including the Corporation's loan commitment of Rs. 627.55 lacs. The schemes are spread over the various urban centres of the State and, when completed, would provide residential accommodation to 4998 EWS and 2670 LIG families.

Opening of Post and Telegraph Offices during next Five Year Plan

*322. SHRI AMARSINH V. RATHAWA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open more post offices and telegraph offices in the country particularly in rural areas during the next Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the criteria adopted for opening new post offices and new telegraph offices; and

(c) the number of post offices and telegraph offices to be opened in Gujarat State during the next plan period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statements containing the information are laid on the Table of the House.

(c) A fresh Five Year Plan for the period 1980-85 is under preparation. State-wise targets will be fixed on a year to year basis after the new Five Year Plan is finalised.

Statement

Norms for opening of Post Offices in rural areas

Post Offices to be opened in rural areas have been classified into two main categories:—

1. Post Offices in normal rural areas; and
2. Post Offices in hilly, tribal and backward areas.

I Post offices in normal rural areas

(i) Post Offices in gram-panchayat villages may be opened subject to the following conditions:—

(a) There is no other post office within the radius of 3 Kms. from the proposed post office; and

(b) The proposed post office is expected to yield income to the extent of at least 25 per cent of its estimated cost.

(ii) Post Offices in non gram-panchayat villages may be opened subject to the following conditions: