

of the rural section is impaired in any way, the pace of progress in rural areas will itself be jeopardised. It is, therefore, necessary to refrain from taking decisions that have longterm adverse effects on the efficient functioning of the cooperative credit institutions like blanket measures for write off or suspension of recovery or total ban on the use of coercive processes. I hope you will review the performance in collection of dues by the cooperatives in your State and take positive measures, in consultation with the cooperatives and other banking institutions, for improving their recovery performance, particularly the dues from wilful defaulters.

With regards.

Yours sincerely,  
Sd/-  
(Rao Brindra Singh)

#### Population of white Tigers

\*217. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:  
SHRI R. N. RAKESH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of white tigers tribe at present in different zoos of the country; and

(b) the efforts being made to increase the population of this rare and elegant animal?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION AND IRRIGATION AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) There are altogether 19 white tigers in the following six zoos in India:

Delhi Zoo

Calcutta Zoo

Kanpur Zoo

Nandan Kanan Zoo, Bhubaneshwar

Hyderabad Zoo

Gauhati Zoo.

(b) The white tiger is a rare occurrence in the wild state because it is a

freak of nature. Efforts have been, however, made to breed the white tiger in captivity in the zoos mentioned above. The main centre for this purpose is the Delhi Zoo which has provided white tigers to the zoos at Kanpur, Bhubaneshwar and Hyderabad.

#### Joint Housing project of Gujarat Government

\*218. SHRI R. P. GANEKWAD: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government have approved a joint housing project of the Gujarat Government;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) whether it is also proposed to include non-Indians in the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

#### Development of small and medium towns in Sixth Plan

\*219. SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to develop small and medium towns in the Sixth Plan;

(b) if so, State-wise details thereof;

(c) how many towns of West Bengal will be developed under this scheme; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.