worth Rs. 6.07 crores. Out of the Rs. 6.07 crores worth schemes approv. ed by the Ministry for this State, Rs. 4.90 crores is the assistance from HUDCO. The rest of the money has to come from them. I am sorry that as far as the seventh scheme which the State Government has brought is concerned, the cost of that scheme is 355.48 lakhs. The sanction was for Rs. 332.12 lakhs. Unfortunately, after spending Rs. 68 lakhs, the State Government abandoned the scheme.

DR. KARAN SINGH: There are two parts in my question. In his reply to my colleague, the Minister said that there is a great shortage of cement in Jammu and Kashmir, which is one of the reasons why the housing projects are not progressing satisfactorily. (a) Would the Minister kindly tell 115 whether the cement factory that is being processed at Basohli, which will to a great extent solve this problem and help the Government to take up a massive housing programme is going to be expedited? (b) In Jammu particularly there are a large number of ex-servicemen and for a long time, there has been a demand for a special defence colony as there in many north Indian States and maybe in the south also. Despite this demand, there has been no response from the State Government. So, would the Minister let us know whether a special demand for a defence colony in Jammu has been received or not and if so, whether the Government of India will try and persuade the State Government to fulfil it?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: As far as the cement factory which the hon. member mentioned is concerned, I have taken note of it and I would speak to the Industry Minister to expedite it if it needs expedition. As far as defence colony is concerned, for the serving defence personnel, the defence Ministry take up the programme of housing. As far as the case of government personnel and retired retired defence personnel are concerned they have to form a cooperative and put forward a scheme through the State Government; then HUDCO will be prepared to consider it.

Housing Schemes for Karnataka

*724. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has prepared a scheme for construction of houses for the poor and middle class families;

(b) if so, whether the scheme has been forwarded to the Union Government for financial help and assistance;

(c) whether there are still a large number of low and middle class families in Karnataka who are without shelter and the Housing Corporation has not been able to give sufficient loans to them for the development of the houses in the State; and

(d) if so, whether Centre has agreed to give all financial and other help to the State Government to achieve this aim for providing houses to all the low and middle class families during the current financial year and also in the Sixth Five Year Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOU-SING (SHRI MOHAMMAD USMAN ARIF): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (d). Housing is a State subject and it is primarily the State's responsibility to cater to this basic need of the people. The Government of India gives financial assistance to the State Governments in the shape of Block Loans and Block Grants for the development activities under the State **Plan**. It is the State Government which makes the inter-sectoral allocation of funds under the State **Plan** according to its priorities and requirements, keeping in view the advice and the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission.

2. The Government of Karnataka sent a proposal in September 1979 asking for financial assistance amounting to Rs. 7.58 crores for construction of 12352 houses for the rural poor. The proposal was examined and the communicated comments were to the State Government in November 1979. The State Government has not yet submitted the revised estimates in the light of the comments.

in 3. There is general shortage housing in the country as a whole including Karnataka. The Housing and Urban Development Corporation which is a public sector undertaking under the Government of India, is providing loan assistance to the State agencies for construtcion of houses provided the scheme are formulated in accordance with the guidelines issued by the HUDCO. So far as the State of Karnataka is concerned HUDCO has so far sanctioned 69 schemes with a total loan of Rs. 39.96 crores. In addition, LIC and GIC loans amounting to Rs. 23.30 crores and Rs. 1.95 crores respectively have also been allocated to the Government of Karnataka for the implementation of social housing schemes. The scheme of assistance to the State Government will continue during the current financial year.

4. The Five Year Plan i_s presently under revision and the schemes under the Sixth Plan 1980—85 along with their outlays are expected to be finalised in the near future.

SHRI B.V. DESAI: In the answer the Minister has stated that the Government of Karnataka sent a proposal in September 1979 asking for financial assistance of R_s 7.58 crores for construction of 12352 houses and the comments on the proposal were communicated to the State Government in November, 1979. May I know what were the comment_s and whether the State Government have sent their revised estimated in the light of the comments?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): As has been pointed out in the main body of the answer, financial assistance amounting to Rs. 7.58 crores for the construction of 12,352 houses have been completed recently in Bangalore. I had a detailed discussion with the Chief Minister and the Ministers concerned, along with their officials. About 3,000 houses under this scheme are still to be completed. They have to submit the accounts as desired by HUDCO in the prescribed form. As soon as the revised estimates and the papers are received, the balance would be released to them. The other part of the question, unfortunately, was not audible. I would request him to repeat it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Availability of Marine Fish in Interior Areas

*719. SHRI A. NEEALOHITHADA-SAN: Will the Minister of AGRICUL-TURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have at present any scheme to make marine fish and other marine foods available in the interior parts of the country accessible by trains; and

(b) the average per capita consumption of marine food in India at present as compared to the per capita intake of these in 1950?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICUL-TURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUC-TION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) Twelve refrigerated rail vans maintaining 0°C temparature