

say that as a Member of the Public Accounts Committee, while I was there.....
(*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER : Kindly sit down. Order, order. This has taken so much time and all the other questions are left out. I am not going to allow any more question.

SHRI C. CHITTIBABU : Just one word. While I was in the Public Accounts Committee, there was a charge [against the Bharat Sevak Samaj

MR. SPEAKER : I am not going to allow it.

SHRI C. CHITTIBABU : **

MR. SPEAKER : It will not go on record. He is speaking without my permission. I do not like this.

SHRI C. CHITTIBABU : **

SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY : The Bharat Sevak Samaj is not entrusted with this work.

MR. SPEAKER : I am passing on to the next question. We have taken so much time on one question.

National Housing Policy

*95. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating to evolve a National Housing Policy; and

(b) if so, the time by which the Policy will materialise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) A number of social housing schemes, aimed primarily at ameliorating the living conditions of the lower income brackets, have been in operation from 1952 onwards. However, studies are now under-way to evolve an overall National Housing Policy, based on physical, economic and fiscal considerations. For this purpose, a seminar is also scheduled at New Delhi the next month, where experts of various disciplines, both from the public and private sectors, will have a comprehensive exchange of views.

(b) Obviously, no realistic time limit can be prescribed for such exercises.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : In view of the urgency of the programme, may I know whether the Minister has fixed any priority for evolving a scheme immediately?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : The hon. Member must have seen that the Rashtrapati, in his Address, and the Finance Minister, in his budget speech, have laid emphasis on this, but I must confess that merely an allocation of priority does not solve the problem. The shortage is so acute and the backlog keeps on increasing at such a speed that the problem is really overwhelming us, and I think we have to do a lot of thinking on this to evolve any quick policy to meet the problem.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Has the Government chalked out any scheme to have two roomed tenements for class III and IV employees in Delhi because the backlog is more than 65,000. What amount has been sanctioned during the Fourth Plan specifically for class III and IV employees?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : So far as construction for Government employees in Delhi is concerned, in the Plan we have an

allocation of Rs. 24 crores for Delhi and elsewhere but mostly it will be in Delhi. Most of this money is spent on lower categories because we are not building any houses in higher categories.

SHRI D. N. TIWARI : Every year some allotment is made to the State Government for housing in rural and urban areas. The rural areas have been neglected. On the one hand there is shortage of accommodation in rural as well as urban areas. But the State Governments are not able to spend money allotted to them and most of it lapses. What steps have the Government taken to see that the allotment made for housing is spent in full. Have any studies been made to find out how far these steps have improved the housing problem?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : The Fourth Plan allocations are made on the basis of block grants and block loans and therefore it is not earmarked. Of course studies are undertaken by the working groups as to how much should go to housing but my regret is that ever since the idea of block grants and block loans has come in, money spent by the State Governments on housing is falling short of our target, both rural and urban, and the situation is getting out of hand; it is worse and it has not improved.

Outside the Plan we have taken two schemes in the Centre; one giving a provision of 100 per cent grant for house sites in rural areas.

MR. SPEAKER : I have called the next question.

Family and Child Welfare Projects

*96. **SHRI V. MAYAVAN :** Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state.

(a) the number of Family and Child Welfare Projects that are functioning in backward areas of the country; out of the total 221 such projects;

(b) the amount spent so far on such projects in the backward areas of the country; and

(c) whether the nutrition programme for children upto 3 years of age cannot become a part and parcel of the Family and Child Welfare Project in backward areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY) : (a) The number of Family & Child Welfare Projects that exist in the country at present is 240. Of these 49 exist in the backward areas;

(b) the amount spent so far on the projects in the backward areas is Rs. 61,53,620.

(c) The two schemes are being merged, in respect of the nutrition part.

SHRI V. MAYAVAN : Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has stated that there are 240 family and child welfare projects throughout the country and that 49 of them are located in backward areas. Sir, 90% of the population of our country live in backward areas of our country but it is, indeed, surprising that only 49 projects are located in the backward areas. Not only that, hon. Minister has also stated that a sum of Rs. 61,53,620 has been spent so far on these projects. Does the hon. Minister consider whether the amount spent is adequate for the purpose?

SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY : We have started this scheme and out of 240 projects that exist in the country, 49 are located in the backward areas. It is our intention to