

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

Misutilisation of Funds under DWCRA

595. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cases of misutilisation of funds under the Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) programme have come to the notice of government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to ensure strict monitoring of the spending of funds by the agencies concerned;

(c) whether the actual achievement in the formation of the women's groups have been falling short of the target every year and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures Government propose to take to ensure not only the proper utilisation of the amount of revolving fund but also the effective implementation of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The achievement in the formation of groups under DWCRA during the Seventh Plan was a little over 80%. The shortfall is due to the fact that the entire process of

selection of beneficiaries, formation of groups, imparting skill training and selection of viable income generating activities etc. proves to be quite time consuming. Because of these major problems, the number of Women's groups formed every year has been less than the target.

(d) The progress of the Programme in terms of utilisation of funds and formation of groups is being closely monitored. Action to remove deficiencies is taken when these are noticed. The State Governments have been urged to give high priority to this Programme.

World Bank Loan to Karnataka for Rural Development

596. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has given any loan for the Integrated Rural Development Programme in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA):

(a) and (b). The World Bank has not given any specific loan for the Integrated Rural Development Programme in Karnataka. But it has provided assistance through NABARD Credit Project-I which provides for a part of the resources towards re-finance for credit disbursement under IRDP in Karnataka also.

Number of Passports Issued by RPO Bangalore

597. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for pass-

ports received and passports issued by the Regional Passport Office, Bangalore during the last three months; and

(b) the steps taken for speedy issue of passports by this office?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Total number applications for passports received at the Regional Passport Office, Bangalore, during May, June and July 1990 was 18413 and total number of passports issued during same period was 17185.

(b) RPO, Bangalore have taken steps to clear immediately all these pending cases, except those with adverse reports, in terms of the new verifications system which has commenced from June 1990.

U-Special DTC Buses

598. **SHRI CHAVIRAM ARGAL:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of D.T.C. buses introduced for the students of Delhi University as U-Special for the current academic session in the capital; and

(b) the number of such buses which had plied during the last academic session?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) and (b). U-Special trips constitute only a part of the day's operational programme of a DTC bus. The Corporation operated 975 U-Special trips during the last academic session. The same number of trips continue to be operated during current academic session.

Police Personnel Travelling Without Ticket

599. **SHRI CHHAVIRAM ARGAL:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the staff of Delhi Transport Corporation, Delhi Police, Home guards and other police personnel are eligible for travelling without ticket in the buses run by the Delhi Transport Corporation;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) if not, how such persons travel free in the DTC buses frequently; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken to stop such frequent travelling without ticket?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) to (d). In terms of provisions of Delhi Road Transport Authority (conditions of Appointment & Services) Regulations 1952, DTC has been providing free duty the DTC Employees of class III and IV recruited on or after 1.9.1952. The same facility is being given to all daily rated and monthly rated employees who were appointed before 1.9.52 and who were in receipt of all route free passes. Officers of Class I and II and wherever necessary operational staff of all categories on duty are also given all-route passes.

Police personnel of the rank of Constables and head Constables are given free travel by DTC buses at the rate of two personnel in uniform in each buses.

Free travel facilities are not extended to Home Guards by DTC.

[Translation]

Loss Incurred by Cochin Shipyard
600. **PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state: