

opment Projects (ITDPs) subserves the Scheduled Areas. The main short-coming of the ITDP set-up is that, the Project Officer-ITDP has not been able to function effectively in certain States due to inadequate devolution of financial and administrative control. Micro-planning at the ITDP level has not been always possible due to lack of expertise and staff with the project Officers.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Some States have introduced single line administration in ITDPs, giving more powers to the Project Officers, and administrative control over the staff of other sectoral Departments operating at ITDP level. Budgetary mechanism has also been modified with the creation of Single-Demand for Tribal sub-Plan in some States.

Accommodation to Office Bearers of Political Parties

7007. SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEO: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines laid down for the allotments of bungalows/flats/houses to the office bearers of the various political parties in Parliament and outside and their affiliated wings like the Trade Union, Mahila Voluntary Force and others;

(b) the particulars of such accommodation allotted by Government and the period for such allotments; and

(c) whether the accommodation still continues to be occupied by the allottees; if so, the rent payable by them and the reasons for their continuing to occupy the accommodation?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Criminal Records of Employees in EPF Organisation

7008. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some employees working in the office of the Central Provident Fund Commissioner were found listed in the criminal records which was verified at the time of police verification; and

(b) if so, the number of such employees and the reasons of their retention in service?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Removal of Restriction of Export Import of Cotton

7009. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to remove restrictions on export and import of cotton so as to bring about stability in the prices of cotton; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Removal of restrictions on export/import of cotton may not necessarily bring about stability in cotton prices. It may on the contrary, affect adversely cotton growers/consumers and the national economy. Hence, export/import intervention is used for