

ROAD ROLLERS

- *831. SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM :
 SHRI E. K. NAYANAR :
 SHRI K. RAMANI :
 SHRI UMANATH :
 SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL :
 SHRI GANESH GHOSH :
 SHRI B. K. MODAK :
 SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :

Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1017 on the 19th February, 1968 and state

(a) whether the C.B.I. has since completed the investigation into various allegations in connection with the supply of road rollers by the United Provinces Commercial Corporation; and

(b) if so, the findings thereof and action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI JAGANATH RAO) : (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

HOUSING FACILITIES IN RURAL AREAS

- *832. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA :
 SHRI S. M. KRISHNA :

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

(a) whether Government have drawn up phased programmes throughout the country to provide housing facilities in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof and the mode of implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI JAGANATH RAO) : (a) The Village Housing Projects Scheme was formulated and introduced by this Ministry in 1957. It is being implemented by various State Governments and Union Territories.

(b) Initially the Scheme is proposed to be executed in 5,000 selected villages spread over various parts of

the country. Selection of the villages for implementation of the Scheme is made by the respective State Governments and Union Territories. It provides for :—

(1) Grant of loans to residents of selected villages or to cooperatives of such persons, for construction/improvement of their houses upto 80% of the cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 3,000 per house, repayable in 20 annual equated instalments of principal and interest. The funds for this purpose are provided by the Central Government to the States etc.

(2) Grant of subsidies to State Governments etc. for provision of (i) free house-sites to landless agricultural workers; (ii) provision of streets and drains in selected villages to improve sanitation and environmental hygiene; (iii) Provision of technical services/guidance to villagers through the Rural Housing Cells set up in State Capitals and additional Overseers to be appointed by State Governments for this purpose. 50% of the expenditure on pay and allowances of the staff of the Cells is met by Central subsidy; (iv) Setting up of research-cum-training centres including demonstration houses in different regions of the country.

SEIZURE OF GOLD FROM B.O.A.C. AIRCRAFT

*833. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Customs and Central Excise, New Delhi has in the Order No. 2/68 of the 15th February 1968 in the matter of seizure of gold bullion from B.O.A.C. aircraft charged B.O.A.C. with deliberate and wilful violation of the Customs Law of the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in the course of the investigations into this matter, it came to light that B.O.A.C. had smuggled 5,382 Kilograms of gold valued at over 10 crores through India to Hong Kong;