

(b) if so, the details thereof and the specific reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the wholesale price index by the end of March, 1970, *vis-a-vis* March, 1969 and March, 1968?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Index Number of Wholesale Prices (1961-62-100) stood at 175.4 for the week ended March 28, 1970 as compared with 165.1 for the week ended March 29, 1969 and 160.3 for the week ended March 30, 1968.

#### ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO STATES FOR HOUSING PROGRAMMES

\*1553. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH:  
SHRI SHAMBHU NATH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that population of Uttar Pradesh is largest among all other States of the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Uttar Pradesh is one of the most backward States as indicated by national *per capita* income; and

(c) if so, the reasons for which the State of Uttar Pradesh was allocated only Rs. 100 lakhs under the proposal for financing housing programme for States out of Rs. 14 crores earmarked by the Life Insurance Corporation whereas having half the population Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh were allocated Rs. 150 lakhs and 120 lakhs respectively?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI K. K. SHAH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Allocations have been made to the States after taking into account their past performance in the utilisation of L.I.C. loans on social housing schemes, their requirements of funds for new programmes,

and the unspent balance left from the earlier loans.

#### INCREASE IN PRICES OF SOAPS

\*1554. SHRI K. N. PANDEY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have allowed an increase in the prices of soaps by manufacturers;

(b) if so, the percentage of this increase;

(c) whether there is any definite pricing policy involving increase and reduction in soap prices, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). In accordance with an informal arrangement agreed to in November, 1966, increases/decreases in the prices of soaps manufactured by the units in organised (large scale) sector are approved by Government on the basis of the prevailing oil prices in the country, availability of imported tallow, palm oil, etc., and the standard formula of oil mix adopted by the manufacturers.

#### विदेशी सहायता

\*1555. श्री देवेन सेन : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों में अब तक भारत को विदेशों से कितनी वित्तीय सहायता प्राप्त हुई है ;

(ख) उसमें से कितनी राशि का विदेशी मुद्रा तथा भारतीय मुद्रा में अलग-अलग भुगतान किया गया है और भारत की ओर ऋण की बकाया राशि अभी कितनी है ;