

should be no problem. There is enough margin money with your State also. We are not worried about it. You kindly ask them as to whether there is any calamity, what is the state of affairs in Tamil Nadu and whether they have touched the margin money or they are still preserving it.

#### A.I. Flight to Baghdad

\*437. SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India propose to start a direct flight to Baghdad ;

(b) whether any request to this effect has been received from Indians in Iraq or the Indian Embassy in Iraq ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Requests have been received from the Ambassador of India in Iraq, Indian Railway Construction Company (IRCON), National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC) and a private builder for restarting Air India's services to Baghdad. No decision has yet been taken.

SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO : I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, as to how long the request is pending with the Central Government and what is the difficulty to take immediate decision in this regard. ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : First of all, there is no load factor, if I were to give the figures of the last two years. Apart from that, we see these main points which are coming in the way for not starting this service to Baghdad. The first point is that we are not able to take the money out and over Rs. 22 crores have been struck up there for the last so many years. Also there is an increased risk because of the war. Apart from that, there is a heavy insurance because both countries are at war with each other and this additional cost of premium is Rs. 4.73 crores per annum. We do not even earn so much money there.

SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO : Has any survey been conducted to decide whether the direct flight to Baghdad is profitable or not ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : There is hardly any traffic. So, having a survey is of no use.

#### Villages Unconnected with Rural Roads

\*438. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages which are not connected by road in each State as on 30 April, 1987 ; and

(b) the national average of length of roads per hundred Sq. Kilometre and the names of States below that average ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) :

(a) and (b). A statement is given below :

#### Statement

S. No.	States/UTs.	No. of Villages yet to be connected by all weather roads (as on 1-4-87)	Road length per hundred Sq. Kilometres of area as on 1-4-83
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15566	48.41
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2643	15.25

1	2	3	4
3.	Assam	8327	41.35
4.	Bihar	44513	48.42
5.	Gujarat	5238	32.35
6.	Haryana	72	55.27
7.	Himachal Pradesh	9693	37.44
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	2550	5.34
9.	Karnataka	18122	59.55
10.	Kerala	0	269.79
11.	Madhya Pradesh	54498	25.56
12.	Maharashtra	17104	59.52
13.	Manipur	1297	24.44
14.	Meghalaya	2414	23.32
15.	Mizoram	598	12.62
16.	Nagaland	691	38.31
17.	Orissa	46504	76.70
18.	Punjab	148	94.80
19.	Rajasthan	26388	22.14
20.	Sikkim	171	16.13
21.	Tamil Nadu	8972	111.88
22.	Tripura	2073	80.10
23.	Uttar Pradesh	66182	52.57
24.	West Bengal	23030	64.88
25.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	163	7.47
26.	Chandigarh	0	15.79
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4	52.95
28.	Delhi	0	1070.44
29.	Goa, Daman and Diu	16	159.53
30.	Lakshadweep	0	—
31.	Pondicherry	0	493.96
All India		356667	47.27

**SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :** I have gone through the statement of the hon. Minister. I confine myself only to the State of Orissa. In the statement it has been stated that in the case of Orissa, 46,504 villages are yet to be connected by all weather roads. Rural economic development depends on rural communication. According to the 1981 census, the total number of villages in Orissa is about 51,000. The statement says that 46,504 villages will be connected by all weather roads. That means, only 500 to 600 villages, till now, are connected by all weather roads which comes to a very negligible percentage. May I know from the hon. Minister when all these villages will be connected by all weather roads, how long it will take ?

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RAMANAND YADAV :** In Orissa, 46504 villages are yet to be connected by roads. There are 2616 villages in the State, the population of which is 1500 or more. Out of this number, 246 villages have so far been connected by roads. The number of villages whose population is between 1000 and 1500 is 4764, out of which 1535 have been connected by roads, the rest of the villages are in hilly areas. The villages in hilly areas are being connected by roads on priority basis and funds for this purpose are being made available under Tribal Sub-Plans and special allocations are also being made for the purpose by the Central Government. The Government have now decided to complete all these roads by 1990 on the basis of Sixth Plan document.

[*English*]

**SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :** My second supplementary is that the development of rural road is a part of the Minimum Needs Programme. Outlays for these programmes are provided in the State Sector. Sir, I know the Orissa Government's financial position is very limited. Orissa is full of forests, tribal areas, hilly areas and the financial position of the Government is not very sound. Unless Government of India comes to the rescue of the State Government and more financial assistance is provided, it is impossible for the State Government to provide all weather roads in tribal and hilly

areas. I request the hon. Minister to provide sufficient funds for the State Government to provide roads in all these villages.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RAMANAND YADAV :** Sir, the Planning Commission has fixed certain norms regarding allocation for roads. These norms are followed before deciding which roads are to be taken up. The norms are : first all villages with a population of above 1500 should be connected by roads ; then 50% villages whose population is between 1000 and 1500 should be covered and these roads should be completed by 1990. We follow the norms prescribed under M.N.P. The rest 50% of the vilages will be covered by the end of Sixth Five Year Plan. Efforts will be made to take up the spill-over work during the Seventh Five Year Plan. As regards small villages and cluster of villages in hilly, terai and desert areas, we try to connect them by a circuitous road. Allocation is made after keeping all these points in view. That is why I have said that we shall be able to cover all these villages by 1990.

[*English*]

**SHRI SOMNATH RATH :** Sir, 46,500 villages in Orissa are not connected by the roads. Certainly, it is on the higher side. The answer given is that such roads will be constructed in the villages where the population is 1,000 or more. But, I want to know from the hon. Minister that by this scheme, whether many villages having less than 1,000 population are deprived of any communication ; if so, whether any action will be taken to give justice to rural people ?

The hon. Minister has answered that cluster of villages will be taken together. May I know from the hon. Minister when will such schemes be taken up for connecting cluster of villages, and justice done to the State of Orissa and why not the Government come to the rescue of the rural poor by way of RLEGP and other schemes ?

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RAMANAND YADAV :** Sir, while speaking about norms, I had referred to villages whose population was more than 1500 or between 1000 and 1500. Apart from these, there are villages, the population

of which is between 200 and 500. There may be a slight variation in it. We take all these villages as a cluster of villages and try to connect all of them by roads under M.N.P. (*Interruptions*)

Survey is not my job. Previously, it was under the Ministry of Surface Transport. It has recently been transferred to my department. Actually, the question pertains to Planning Commission, but it has been referred to me. However, I shall try to satisfy the hon. Members.

If in a cluster of villages, there are villages whose population is below 200, they too will be covered. Therefore, in hilly areas, desert areas, coastal and tribal areas, the distance is counted and not the population.

[*English*]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : The hon. Minister comes from Bihar ; whereas in States like Kerala all the villages have been connected with roads. There are more than 44000 villages which have not been connected with roads in Bihar. May I know the reasons thereof and when does the hon. Minister propose to connect those villages with roads ?

(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON) : I want to tell the hon. Member on my colleague's behalf that it is his own State and he will take care of it.

#### Built Houses for Middle Class People

\*440. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to encourage Housing Boards to sell built houses on long term instalment basis to middle class people ;

(b) if so, whether housing financial institutions will help to acquire built houses on long term instalments ; and

(c) whether private housing agencies would also be involved in similar programmes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Housing is in the State sector. Several State Governments through Housing Boards and other agencies are implementing housing schemes for the Middle Income Groups.

(b) and (c). The Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) is also providing loan assistance to these agencies for construction of houses for middle income and other income groups. It has also been decided to set up a National Housing Bank which will promote Housing finance institutions at the base level for providing home loans to individuals. In addition, the Government is also encouraging housing activities by providing facilities to cooperatives and individuals.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : My question was with regard to encouraging the sale of built houses to middle income groups on a long term instalment basis and the answer does not say anything specifically on this point. I would like to know whether the Government propose to ask HUDCO to build houses for middle income groups and sell those houses to them on a long term instalment basis.

There are some schemes of hire purchase wherein heavy down payments are required. It is not possible for the middle income groups to acquire houses in this way. Therefore, my question is, whether the Government propose to ask HUDCO or other agencies to build houses and sell them to middle income groups on long term loan basis.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : HUDCO is a Central financial institution. The Special Area Development Authority is merely an institution to finance the housing schemes of the State Government whether it is through co-operative societies or the Housing Board. It does not build houses, but grants loans according to the requirements of different States.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : My specific question is whether the built up houses are sold or not ? It has nothing to do with loans. This type of