

played for this purpose. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would order an enquiry into the non-distribution of controlled cloth ?

SHRI SUKH RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Government has approved S.C.C. as a nodal agency and it is the responsibility of the S.C.C. to allocate either to the State Consumer Federation or to the nominees of the State Government. After that it is distributed through the Public distribution system and the State Governments are responsible for its proper distribution. Whenever we get any complaint we write to the State Governments to ensure proper distribution. We have not received any complaint from Madhya Pradesh regarding such irregularities. If the hon. Member informs us about any irregularity, we will definitely write to the State Government to ensure proper distribution.

SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, part (a) of the question is—whether cloth is also being distributed in addition to wheat, rice and oil to the weaker sections of the people in States ? Keeping in view that Saurashtra and Rajkot district in Gujarat are affected by drought, may I know whether there is any scheme for distribution of more controlled cloth to the weaker sections of the people there ?

SHRI SUKH RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this cheap controlled cloth is mainly for the poor and weaker sections of the people and in drought affected areas, it is the duty of the Consumer Cooperative Federation to distribute controlled cloth to the people belonging to the weaker sections. If the hon. Member has any complaint, we will write to the State Governments which has to make this arrangement.

[*English*]

**Civic Law for Municipalities and
Municipal Corporations**

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*550. **DR. A.K. PATEL :**

DR. PHULRENU GUHA :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to frame a model civic law for municipalities

and municipal corporations of the entire country and a committee has been constituted to consider and recommend the same ;

(b) whether Government have received recommendations of the committee ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (d) Government of India have set up a Committee to consider and recommend a "Single Municipal Corporation Act" for the entire country. The Committee has yet to submit its report to the Government.

DR. A.K. PATEL : I am surprised to see that a single reply is given to all the four parts of my question. It is found that where the opposition parties are in charge of the municipal corporations, especially in my State where we have three corporations in the hands of the opposition, there is a step motherly attitude on the part of the State Government. Therefore, I want to know on what date this committee was constituted and if any time limit is mentioned to submit the report

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Sir, a Major's Conference was held here in 1985 and in that it was recommended that there should be a single Municipal Corporation Act for the whole of India. It is wrong to say that some State Governments are discriminating against certain Municipalities. In that conference, the Mayors belonging to opposition parties also took part and a Joint-Secretary level Committee has also been set up. Again in 1986 the Mayors wanted to be included in that Committee. They also want to submit their views. Three or four meetings have already held and as soon as the report comes we will deliberate on it.

[*English*]

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : The multiplicity of enactments governing the construction of houses in the urban areas has become a fertile ground for corruption. The Municipal Act, the Urban Ceiling Act,

the Town Planning Act, the bye-laws, the building bye-laws, the zonal regulations, any number of enactments are there which a citizen has to encounter if he wants to construct a small house in any one of the urban agglomerations. As I said, it has become a fertile ground for corruption in almost all the States. There should be a uniform enactment consolidating all these Acts and a central authority wherein the citizen can go and get not only the civic amenities but also will be in a position to construct houses. Will the Minister assure us that such an enactment can be brought up within a quarter or within six months at least ?

[Translation]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : The hon. Member has pointed out that so many organisations and bodies are engaged in this task. The Myers were of the view that this creates confusion in people's mind and therefore, there should be a single Act for the whole country. Taking into consideration the programmes of the respective States, the Mayors have met and given their suggestions. As soon as we get their recommendations, we shall look into them. Two meetings of the Committee were held in Delhi and one each in Calcutta and Bombay. The existing Acts in force in different big cities and the amenities being provided there are being studied. Municipalities are of the opinion that they are facing a lot of difficulties due to tremendous increase in urban population and abolition of Octroi duty. Their financial position is required to be strengthened. These are the aspects which will be looked into as soon as we get the report from the Committee.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the hon. Minister kindly say how many municipalities are there in the whole country and how many of them have conducted elections and how many of them are nominated bodies ?

MR. SPEAKER : This does not come under this question.

[Translation]

For this you have to ask another question.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Whether the Minister will consider, in all the Municipal elections, eighteen years of age for voting.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a different question.

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. B.L. Shailesh... Absent.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri T. Basheer... Absent.

MR. SPEAKER : The question list is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Amount Allocated under Rural Development Programmes

*531. **SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated, released by the Centre and the States' share for each scheme of rural development during the last three years, State-wise/Union Territory-wise ; and

(b) the amount actually utilised by each State/Union Territory and its percentage to total allocation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) Statements showing the required information under the major Rural Development Programmes of this Department, viz., Integrated Rural