

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of NOCs have been issued by the Directorate of Printing to various Government Departments to get their jobs printed/executed from the Private Printers; and

(b) if so, the details of all such NOCs which were issued to various Government Departments during the period from January, 1994 to December, 1999?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the number of NOCs issued by the Directorate of Printing to various Government Departments to get their jobs printed/executed from the Private Printers constitute about 1% of the total jobs received for printing in the various Government of India Presses during the period from January, 1994 to December, 1999.

Purchase of Excess Printing Paper by DOP

432. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Directorate of Printing had purchased a huge quantity of printing paper worth crores of rupees during the period from January, 1991 to December, 1997 far in excess of the requirements of various Government Presses; and

(b) if so, the total quantity of paper purchased during the said period and the names of the suppliers firms/companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Model Act for all Municipal Corporation

433. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are in the process of preparation of a Model—Act

for all Municipal Corporations and Councils; and

(b) whether such a demand was made by the Mayor's Council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) As per Entry 5 of the State List of the constitution, Municipality is a State subject. In view of this it is for the State Governments to enact necessary municipal legislations. As such, at present there is no proposal under consideration to enact Model Municipal Act as demanded by the All India Council of Mayors.

Scheme to Develop the Cities of NER

434. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any comprehensive scheme to develop the main cities of North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; city-wise;

(c) if not, the specific reasons therefor; and

(d) the necessary steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (d) There is already an on-going Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) which covers all towns with a population upto 5 lakhs. The towns of North East Region are also covered under this Scheme. A statement indicating the Central Assistance released to towns of North East States under IDSMT upto January 2000 is attached as Annexure-I [See Appendix 189, Annexure No. 12]. In addition, two Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme and Low Cost Sanitation for liberation of scavengers are also in operation. Details of the funds released under these schemes to the North Eastern States are attached as Statement-I. (See below). However, no scheme to exclusively develop the main cities of North Eastern Region has been formulated.