

and Siliguri (West Bengal). More observatories are planned-Drinking Water Projects in Flouris Affected Districts of Andhra Pradesh

3930. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government have forwarded proposals for assistance for taking up drinking water projects in seven districts having problems of fluorides or brackish water;

(b) whether large scale cases of death on account of fluorosis have been reported in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken for early sanction of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHAN-DRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India has not received any such report from the State Government.

(c) does not arise.

(d) Action has been taken to process and sanction the projects in consultation with the State Government.

Vacant Quarters In Mandir Marg and DIZ Areas

3931. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Government quarters are lying vacant in J-Block, Mandir Marg and in whole of the DIZ area in New Delhi, for a long period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would consider to allot those vacant Quarters at the earliest to the persons seeking accommodation" for the last few years; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) no, Sir. However, sometimes general pool quarters which are offered for allotment are not accepted leading to an impression as if the quarters are lying vacant.

(b) and (d) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

Return of Kashmiri Migrants

3932. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether proper atmosphere has been prevailing in Jammu and Kashmir for the return of the Kashmiri migrants to the State;

(b) whether they have since started returning to the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) by when all the migrants are expected to be sent back to the State; and

(e) the efforts made for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) to (c) Due to various measures taken by the Government, the security scenario has changed as is visible from successful conduct of Lok Sabha Elections in J&K. The elections for the State Assembly are also being held in September 1996. This has helped creating a positive atmosphere in the State. There are encouraging signs, as in the month of June, 17 migrants including women, returned to their native places in Baramulla district.

(d) and (e) It is not possible to give a precise time-frame for the return of the migrants. As the willingness of the migrants to return is a necessary ingredient for the purpose, the Government would adopt the policy of persuasion and en-

couragement besides taking further confidence building measures. The Central Government is in constant touch with the State Government and representatives of the migrants in this regard.

Assistance Scheme for States for Drinking Water in Municipal Areas

3933. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to assist the State Government to provide drinking water facilities in Municipal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds released to Andhra Pradesh for the purpose during 1994-95 and 1995-96; and

(d) the names of Municipalities which were benefited from such financial assistance in Andhra Pradesh during 1994-95 and 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) for towns having population less than 20,000 (as per 1991 Census) has been introduced with effect from March, 1994. Under this programme cost between the Central and the State Government is shared in the ratio of 1:1,

(c) and (d) No proposal has so far been received from the State of Andhra Pradesh by the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment. In view of this, no funds have been released to Andhra Pradesh during 1994-95 and 1995-96.

UN Report on Socio-Economic Condition of India

3934. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention

has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'India still amongst the poorest and socially impoverished: U.N. report' which appeared in the Times of India of the 17th July, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) what are Government's plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER ALAGH): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) The news item pertains to Human Development Report 1996, published by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The Report presents a number of indices that combine a measure of income with other social indicators, to capture the level of human progress. There include the Human Development Index (HDI), the Gender related Development Index (GDI), the Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) and the Capability Poverty measure (CPM). The report notes that (i) India is ranked 135 out of a total of 174 countries on the HDI;

(ii) the CPM is estimated at 61.5 per cent of India's population;

(iii) at a disaggregated level the HDI and the Gender related Development Index reveals large disparities across regions; (iv) the real per capita income showed a significant improvement for India in the period since 1980; and (v) India is among the countries where income became more equitably distributed.

(c) and (d) Human development is the ultimate goal of the Eighth Five year Plan. It is towards this that employment generation, population control, literacy, education, health, drinking water and provision of adequate food and basic infrastructure are listed as priorities. The Common Minimum programme reiterates