

(b) the steps Government propose to take to meet this shortage of food-grains fitock; and

(c) what concrete steps are proposed to be taken to maintain the public distribution system in the country with adequate supply of food-grains?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) As on 1-1-1988, the stock of food-grains with the public agencies was 14.14 milion tonnes as against 23.63 million tonnes on 1-1-87. The procurement of foodgrains in 1987 was 15.7 million tonnes as against 19.7 million tonnes in 1986. Distribution of foodgrains under public distribution system in 1987 was 14.9 million tonnes against 13.2 million tonnes in 1986.

(b) and (c) There is regularly replenishment of stocks through procurement operations in the country, for which the procuring agencies have been advised to maximise procurement. The available stocks are being utilised judiciously to meet the reasonable requirements of public distribution system. Further, the Government is also keeping open the option to import foodgrains as and when considered necessary.

Targets for Building Houses for Weaker Sections in Major Cities

1859. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what was the target of houses to be built for the weakers sections in Delhi, Bombay Calcutta, Madras, Hyderabad and Bangalore during the Seventh Five Year Plan period,

(b) to what extent this target has been fulfilled during the first three years of the Seventh Plan;

(c) what is the shortfall, if any, in fulfilling this target; and

(d) in what manner Government propose to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d) Housing being a State subject; all social housing schemes are formulated and implemented by the States/UTs as per their requirements and plan priorities.

The targets in respect of EWS Housing Scheme are fixed State-wise/Ut-wise and not city-wise. The Union Govt, only monitors the housing schemes including the scheme of Housing for the Economically Weaker Sections which forms part of Point No. 14 of the 20-Point Programme-1986. For the Union Territory of Delhi no specific targets were fixed for the scheme during the Seventh Plan period. However, during the first 3 years of the Seventh Plan (upto 29-2-1988), 10184 units were constructed in Delhi under EWS and Janta Housing Schemes etc.

Decline in the Number of Certain Scheduled Tribes

1860. SHRI BHAGATRAM MAN-HAR: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that there is decline in the number of certain scheduled tribes due to biological factors in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a time bound programme has been announced recently by Government to take corrective steps to halt the dwindling tribal population in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when Government propose to check this; decline and what steps are likely to be taken in the proposed time bound programme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) There is no

conclusive evidence to indicate that there is decline in population of certain Scheduled Tribe groups due to biological factors.

(b) Tribe-wise population figures as per 1981 Census are not yet available. However the 1971 Census showed a decline in respect of certain tribal groups which may be partly due to cross-enumeration of various tribal groups and migration, etc.

(c) and (d) Health care constitutes an important component of the micro-projects formulated for vulnerable tribal groups like primitive tribes during 7th Plan. Health studies for such groups have been initiated with assistance from Union and State Governments. These are in addition to the normal Health Programmes implemented in tribal areas.

Shortage of Houses in Delhi

1861. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that there continues to be acute housing shortage in Delhi; if so, what is the number of people living in various types of accommodation in Delhi and the number of those who live in thatched huts, pavements or in the open; and

(b) what are the details of various steps being taken or proposed to be taken to end housing shortage in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) DDA or Delhi Administration have not conducted any survey recently about housing shortage in Delhi.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Report of the Wage Board for Journalists and non-journalists

1862. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI DHARAM CHANDER
PRASHANT:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 312 given in Rajya Sabha on the 10th November, 1987 and state;

(a) whether the Wage Board for journalist and non-journalists would be in a position to finish its work by the extended time i.e. 31st March 1988; and

(b) what measures are being taken to expedite its Work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The present, extended, term of the Wage Board for Working Journalists and Non-Working Journalists. News paper Employees is upto 31-3-88. According to the Wage Boards, the final submissions by the employers and employees' Organisation will yet take time. After they conclude their submission and furnish replies to questions put to them, and after experts have been heard (regarding, whose examination the Boards have yet to take a decision), Wage Boards would sit continuously and keeping in view the present stage of work, Wage Boards have estimated that the report is likely to be finalised only by 31st August, 1988.

Setting-up of National Industrial Tribunal

1863. SHRI KAPIL VERMA;
SHRI M. KADHARSHA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a National Industrial Tribunal; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?