

them regular; if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) to. (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Collection of Octroi

1837. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Council of Mayors had suggested the appointment of a Committee to review the difficulties in collection of octroi and to see whether it could be abolished; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Conference proposed appointment of a Committee to review the situation on a time-bound basis. The Government would consider this recommendation.

Forest villages

1838. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to create a Department of Forestry in the Ministry of Agriculture; if so, what are the details in this regard;

(b) the number of forest Villages in the country and the number of tribals residing in those villages; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take for the development of forest dwellers during the Seventh Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There are about 5,000 forest villages in the country in which about two lakh tribal families reside.

(c) For the benefit of tribals and forest dwellers, it is proposed that forestry programmes during the Seventh Plan Period will give special attention to the following.—

—Substitution of intermediaries by institutional arrangements which promote the interests of tribals, such as tribal labour cooperatives.

—Protection, regeneration and optimum collection of minor forests produce alongwith institutional arrangements for marketing of such produce.

—Development of forest villages at par with revenue villages.

—Family-oriented schemes for improving the status of the tribal beneficiaries.

—Undertaking integrated area development programmes to meet the needs of tribal economy in and around the forest areas, including the provision of alternative sources of domestic energy to reduce pressures on the existing forest areas.

C. J. International Hotel's lease with NDMC

1839. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

SHRI S. W. DHABE:

SHRI KISHOR MEHTA:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the C.J. International Hotel's lease agreement with the New Delhi Municipal Committee is being redrafted;

(b) if so, the details of the changes being made; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Meredian Hotel collaboration with the C.J. International Hotel no longer exists?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The NDMC have reported that no lease agreement was executed by them with C.J. International Hotels Ltd. and as such the question of redrafting the agreement does not arise.

(c) The NDMC have reported that they have no information in this regard.

Delhi Public School

1840. SHRI SHANKER SINGH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Blitz' of the 7th July, 1984 under the heading "Principal Scandal of Delhi Public School".

(b) whether Government have inquired into the matter; and

(c) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Pursuant to a Calling Attention Notice tabled in the Metropolitan Council, Delhi on 17-5-84, a special Inspection Committee has been constituted by the Delhi Administration under Section 24, Sub-Section 2 of Delhi School Education Act, 1973 to conduct special inspection of the school.

Jobs to landless labourers

1841. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:
SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount earmarked for providing employment in the rural areas particularly for providing jobs to the landless labourers during the current financial year; and

(b) the amount provided for employment generation in the rural areas and the number of persons likely to get jobs in the rural areas during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) and (b) The two major programmes for providing wage employment in the rural areas are the National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP). The NREP envisages generation of additional employment opportunities for the rural unemployed and under-employed, including the landless. However, it is the RLEGP which has, among its other objectives, the objective of improving and expanding employment opportunities for the rural landless with a view to provide guarantee of employment to at least one member of every landless labour household upto 100 days in a year. An amount of Rs. 230.0 crores has been earmarked for the current year i.e. 1984-85 as the Central allocation under NREP. An equal amount is to be provided by the State/Union Territory Governments as their matching contribution under this Programme. An employment generation target of 309.129 million mandays has been fixed under the NREP for the current year and is expected to be achieved fully. In the case of RLEGP an amount of Rs. 500.0 crores has been earmarked under the Programme and an employment generation target of 300 million mandays has been fixed.

Development of Bhagwati port as an all weather port

1842. SHRI HUSEN DALWAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fish worth rupees seven crores has been exported from Ratnagiri port during the last financial years; and

(b) whether Government have a proposal for developing the Bhagwati port as an all weather port as originally planned?