

pediency and courtesy would demand that the letter is replied by the addressee himself in routine matters not involving questions of policy.

In regard to letters addressed by MPs to the heads of attached or subordinate offices, the addressee officer may furnish to the MP any factual information, statistical data or information from published documents, etc., which are unclassified, and information which would not ordinarily be denied to a Member on the floor of the House. Where, however, a matter of policy is involved, the officer would, no doubt, take care to have prior consultation with higher authorities before sending a reply.

Sd/-

(P. V. PASUPATHY)

Under Secretary

Construction of Chamba-Bhadarwah Road

739. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that construction of inter-State Chamba-Bhadarwah road a Centrally sponsored Project started over fifteen years back, has been completed upto Jammu-Chamba border by Himachal Pradesh Government but it has not been completed in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for which construction of the road has considerably been delayed in Jammu and Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI):

(a) No, Sir. Work on both the J&K State and Himachal Pradesh portions of the road is expected to be completed by March, 1986.

(b) Difficult hilly terrain, limited working season, dearth of suitable contractors and skilled labour and shortage of cement and explosives are

stated to be the main reasons for the delay in the completion of the J&K portion. Non-allocation of sufficient funds by the J&K State to meet their portion of the cost, is stated to be another reason for the delay.

Unauthorised occupants

740. SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA:

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the D.D.A. has launched a drive to demolish encroachments on public land by unauthorised occupants;

(b) if so, what result has been achieved during the past three months, and

(c) what is the total area of land acquired as a result thereof?

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.

(b) 1974 encroachment, including jhuggies, shops, khokhas and semi-pucca unauthorised structures were removed by the DDA during the period from 1-2-1984 to 30-4-1984.

(c) 79 acres.

National Educational Testing Unit

741. SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission has decided to set up a national educational testing unit which is expected to conduct examinations for admission of students to Central Universities and professional courses, and

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