

representation from the Mizoram Administration in regard to the acute shortage of rice in that Union Territory; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for short supply of rice to that Union Territory and what steps Government propose to take to meet this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the past few months rail movement to North Eastern Region has generally been affected due to deterioration in law and order situation, shortage of diesel and transport bottleneck. Nevertheless, all efforts are being made to reach adequate stocks of rice for meeting the demand under the public distribution system and Food-for-Work Programme.

Government are keeping a close watch on the stock of foodgrains in the State and movement of foodgrains is being carefully monitored.

Allotment of Government accommodation to house owning Central Government employees in Delhi

504. SHRI DHARAMCHAND JAIN: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allot Government accommodation to those Central Government employees who have their own houses;

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

(c) whether the priority dates of such employees are likely to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) and (b) Government employees who have their own houses are eligible for allotment of Government accommodation but their priority date is reckoned from 1-6-1977 or from a subsequent date, as the case may be. For the purpose of allotment, they have to take their own turn.

(c) No, Sir. There is no proposal under consideration to restore their original date of priority.

Extension of S.T.D. facilities from Delhi to cities in Madhya Pradesh

505. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to link some big cities of Madhya Pradesh with Delhi through S.T.D. facilities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) Bhopal, Indore and Raipur are already linked with Delhi through S.T.D.

(ii) Gwalior and Jabalpur will be linked with Delhi through S.T.D. in 1980-81, Bilaspur, Bhilai and Ujjain will be linked with Delhi through S.T.D. in 1981-82.

Physical verification of L.P.G. cylinders

506. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no proper procedure of reconciliation between the book balance and the physical balance of LPG cylinders in all the regions of the Indian Oil Corporation; and

(b) whether any steps have been initiated to evolve suitable procedure in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.