

Preservation of Buxa Fort in West Bengal

*307. PROF. D. P. CHATTO-
 PADHYAYA: SHRI PRASENJIT
 BARMAN: SHRI JAHARLAL
 BANERJEE: SHRIMATI
 PRATIMA BOSE: SHRI SARDAR
 AMJAD ALI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION,
 SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be
 pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the Central Government's consideration to preserve as a national movement the Buxa Fort in Jalpaiguri district in West Bengal where many freedom fighters were detained as internees during the country's freedom struggle; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION,
 SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR.
 PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) No
 Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Construction of houses by the Kerala State Housing Board

*308. SHRI S. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala State Housing Board has evolved a programme for constructing one lakh houses in the rural areas of Kerala for the economically weaker sections of the society;

(b) if so, whether the Chairman of the Board has held any discussions with a team of officials of the Housing and Urban Development Corporation when the latter visited Trivandrum recently; and

(c) if so, what was the nature of the discussions held and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

HUDCO has introduced a scheme to provide loans to the agencies nominated by the State Governments for construction of houses in rural areas. Loans will be available for construction of low cost houses, the cost not exceeding Rs. 4,000. HUDCO will provide loan to the extent of 50 per cent of the cost of the project, the balance being found by the construction agencies from their own sources which can be in the form of the allottees' own contribution in cash or kind, subsidy and/or loan from the State Government. The rate of interest will be 5-1/4 per cent with 1/4 per cent rebate for timely payment.

2. In the light of the guidelines of HUDCO, a scheme for construction of one lakh houses for the economically weaker sections in the rural areas of Kerala is being prepared by the Kerala State Housing Board. The scheme is being drawn up as an aided self-help scheme and the cooperative societies, panchayats and other bodies will be involved in its implementation. 50 per cent of the finance required for the scheme is proposed to be raised as a loan from the HUDCO. It will be possible for the HUDCO to finance the scheme if it conforms to the norms laid down by the HUDCO for rural housing.

Allotment of houses by DDA

*309. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:
 SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI:
 Will the Minister of WORKS AND
 HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND RE-
 HABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of persons who are registered with the DDA