

sation in Kuala Lumpur in the first week of August, 1978 and urged them to promote a programme for establishing nutrition gardens in areas inhabited by low income group people in the developing countries;

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

(c) whether there has been any response from the FAO in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation addressed the 14th Session of FAO Regional Conference for Asia and Far East held at Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) on 1st August, 1978 and made the following suggestion in regard to establishment of nutrition gardens:

"1979 has been designated by the UN system as the international Year of the Child. In this connection, I would like to recall that at the World Food Conference held in Rome in 1974 a resolution was unanimously adopted urging international organisations and national governments to ensure that by 1984 no child, woman or man goes to bed hungry and that no human being's physical or mental potential is stunted by malnutrition. The only method of achieving the goal stated by the World Food Conference is accelerated agricultural advance and improved distribution and social security measures. We should find simple local solutions for local problems. For example, many of the common causes of malnutrition can be overcome by propagating the cultivation of appropriate vegetables, nuts and fruits. I would suggest that FAO may promote a programme for

the establishment of Nutrition Gardens in the areas inhabited by low income groups in developing countries."

(c) The suggestion would be considered by the F.A.O. in formulating their future programme of work.

#### Delivery of Books and Newspapers (Public Libraries) Act, 1954

\*766. SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU:  
DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:  
SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the books delivered to the State Press Officers under the Delivery of Books and Newspapers (Public Libraries) Act, 1954 are supposed to be kept in the library;

(b) whether Government are aware that these books are sold as trash; and

(c) if so, what remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) to (c) Under the said Act the books are delivered to three Public Libraries. Government have not received complaints that these books are sold as trash.

#### Publishing of reports by the Yoga Centre of Vishwayatan Yogashram

\*767. SHRI SAWAISINGH SISO-DIA:  
SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA:  
SHRI BHIM RAJ:

SHRI PRAKASH MEHRO-  
TRA:  
SHRIMATI HAMIDA  
HABIBULLAH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that half-yearly and annual research reports which used to be published by the Yoga Centre of the Vishwayatan Yogashram, New Delhi have not been published since the take over of the Ashram;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what action Government are taking in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) No half yearly or annual reports were being published by the Vishwayatan Yogashram prior to its takeover by the Central Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A proposal to publish a consolidated report of the activities of the institution is under consideration of the Government.

#### Special cell for group Housing Societies

\*768. SHRI SURENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee on Co-operative Group Housing Societies headed by Mr. Justice Lokur has recommended the setting up of a special cell for providing necessary guidance etc. to the Group Housing societies; and

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted the recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Nutrition Programme

\*769. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the nutrition programme launched by the Central Government for the benefit of the poor has not achieved the desired objective;

(b) whether it is also a fact that most of the similar schemes could not either be started or have remained at the half-way stages of implementation because of financial constraints and halfhearted efforts by the implementing agencies like the Modern Bakeries, the Food Corporation of India and the Food and Nutrition Board; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI): (a) No, Sir. The Supplementary nutrition programmes as well programme relating to provision of prophylaxis for vitamin 'A' deficiency are for malnourished and anaemic children and the target groups mainly include the children of slum areas, tribal areas and areas inhabited by Scheduled Castes and other backward classes. Supplementary nutrition feeding programme is feeding about 13 million children (school and pre-school) and pregnant women and nursing mothers. The prophylaxis for vitamin 'A' deficiency and anaemic children covered about