

Launching of habitat movement in the country

889. SHRI RAGHBIR SINGH GILL: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a factth at the Planning Commission have formulated a scheme for launching habitat movement in the country;

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

(c) what is the number of villages in each State proposed to be covered under the scheme;

(d) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to give financial and other assistance to voluntary organisations engaged in such work; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SANKAR GHOSE): (a) to (c) The object of the Habitat movement is primarily to reduce the disparity between rural and urban regions. In order to do this it is necessary to increase incomes in the rural sector an[^] to endow that sector with a viable capital base. It is also an aim of the Habitat movement to inculcate in villagers the attitudes and motivations that are conducive to economic growth.

The Planning Commission has helped to formulate plans for the improvement of the quality of life in our villages. One of the primary objectives of the Fifth Five Year Plan is to bring the backward and weaker sections of the population into the mainstream of our national life. The programme of minimum needs, S.F.D.A., M.F.A.L., D.P.A.P. Tribal development and Child Services have already made a significant impact on the tenor of rural life. The efforts

made by the Government to implement the 20-Point Programme announced by the Prime Minister are also altering the economy of the villages. All these activities of the Government are in consonance with the policy of the Habitat movement.

The Central Social Welfare Board gives some financial assistance to certain voluntary organisations undertaking developmental activities.

International Film Festival in India

890. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA r Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased! to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to hold the International Film Festival i_n India as a permanent annual feature;

(b) if so, whether an organisational infrastructure will be created for the purpose; and

(c) whether an Indian team will be sent abroad to arrange for the entry of outstanding foreign films to> the film festival?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA): (a) No decision haa been taken to hold an International Film Festival in India as an annual feature.

(b) and (c) The questions do not arise.

Agro-industrial complexes for Bihar and Kamataka

891. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) whether it i_s a fact that the Government of Bulgaria have agreed