

SHRI OM MEHTA : I have already given the figures in reply to another question.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : While replying to supplementaries the hon. Minister has revealed the style of functioning of the Government of India. He has admitted that the decision was taken in 1969, but they have not been able to bring forward legislation because of the complications of the problem. That shows they did not consider the pros and cons of such a measure before taking a decision or before announcing a decision. Now, four years have passed...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly put your question. All of us know that four years have passed.

SHRI T. V. ANANDAN : Leniency must be shown to the opposition, as you have shown to them.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Now, this is a serious matter. Whenever the Government takes a decision, the entire population of the country feels that the Government has taken the decision after going into the pros and cons of the problem. Now, the hon. Minister has given a feeling to this House that they did not consider the pros and cons and could not go into the details, but they are going into the details now, having decided it in 1969. That is why I want to know at least this. He says that millions of people in this country are homeless and that is why we have to accelerate the programme of the construction of houses. But people are reluctant to build houses because they do not know what is going to be the ceiling. At least for God's sake tell us whether the ceiling is going to be Rs. 5 lakhs, or Rs. 3 lakhs or Rs. 2 lakhs or Rs. 1 lakh, whatever it is—what is there in your mind—so that the

people of this country may know and start constructing the houses.

SHRI OM MEHTA : I have already said that at that time we accepted this thing in principle. The details are being worked out and if I tell him the ceiling, he will sell his property. Why should I tell him what is the ceiling?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I want to make it clear that I do not have any urban property worth Rs. 2 lakhs or Rs. 3 lakhs or Rs. 5 lakhs. There is no question of my disposing of any property.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : He was a member of the Congress when the 10-point programme was formulated.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Mr. Patil, you are in bad company now.

Jayanti Village Scheme

*500. **SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA :**†

SHRI K. B. CHETTRI :

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI :

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY :

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI :

MISS SAROJ PURUSHOTAM KHAPARDE :

SHRIMATI AZIZA IMAM :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply to the Unstarred Question No. 988 given in the Rajya Sabha on March 7, 1973 and state :

(a) whether some more villages have been included in the "Jayanti Village" scheme;

(b) if so, the amount of funds allotted for these villages; and

(c) the progress so far made in providing these villages with drinking water facilities, improved housing for

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Harsh Deo Malaviya.

weaker sections of society, improvement of school buildings, provision of roads, drainage, and electrification ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) to (c)

Yes, Sir. According to the reports received after 7th March, 1973, additional Jayanti villages have been selected in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Manipur, Orissa, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and Union Territories of Arunachal Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep. While no specific funds have been allotted for these villages separately, the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have reported that the financing of the developmental activities in these additional villages, is being arranged by utilising the outlays under on-going Plan and non-Plan schemes of the State, Central and Centrally Sponsored Sectors in a concentrated manner. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have also not reported the progress so far made in these additional villages in providing facilities such as drinking water, improved housing etc.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: What is the total number ?

PROF. SHER SINGH: 761.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: Not unoften the information given to us in this House and in the other august House is based upon reports supplied by the village patwari, kanungo and all other revenue officials. It has often been seen...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not want to know your description of what is going on in the other House and this House. This is Question Hour, you must realise, Mr. Malaviya, because you have always got a long preface before a question is put.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: My question is: How has the Government satisfied itself? Has it a certain machinery to check up the reports that drinking water facilities, etc. have been provided? Is there a system by which check and control are introduced?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

PROF. SHER SINGH: We receive reports from the State Government and we believe them because they supply all the information that drinking water supply has been provided in so many villages, that electrification has been completed in so many villages, that house sites have been provided in so many villages, etc. The State Governments have given us detailed information. I have got information about all the States as to how many villages have been given such facilities under the programme of Jayanti villages. We collect this information from all the States.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: In the last reply which is referred to, unstarred question No. 988, dated 7th March, 1973, it was said that the total number of Jayanti villages is 4556. Now, according to the hon. Minister's reports, another 771 have been added. I would like to know whether the Government plans to include some more villages in the Jayanti village scheme?

PROF. SHER SINGH: Government do not propose to include more villages now. We have requested the State Governments to complete all the works

which have to be completed in these villages by the end of this financial year. So, there is no question of adding to the number of villages.

SHRI K. B. CHETTRI: May I know from the hon'ble Minister what exactly is the difference between a Jayanti village and a Model village and what will be the fate of other villages which are neither model villages nor Jayanti villages? In view of such a partial attitude on the part of the Government between one village and another village, will the hon'ble Minister give an assurance to this august House that the other villages will also not go neglected?

PROF. SHER SINGH: Sir, under this programme of Jayanti villages, during the 25th year of Independence Jayanti celebrations, it was envisaged that certain basic facilities should be provided at least to one village in one block and it was emphasised that the State Government take up this programme. Many State Governments have done very useful work. They have provided several facilities. I have got a statement which I can lay on the Table of House on information that I have received from the various States where such villages have been provided with these facilities. We have requested the State Governments to see that in future these facilities are provided to other villages also.

SHRI MAN SINGH VARMA: What is the difference between a model village and a Jayanti village?

(No reply)

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are concerned here with the Jayanti villages.

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY: May I know from the hon'ble Minister what are the criteria for selecting these

Jayanti villages and whether the Government have any proposal under its consideration to bring all the backward villages at par?

PROF. SHER SINGH: There were no strict criteria as such. We requested the State Governments to select one village in each block. That was the decision taken here so that during this year, the Jayanti Year, we may be able to provide these facilities at least to one village in one block to begin with where minimum basic facilities are not available and then the programme could be extended. It was entirely left to the State Government to select a village.

Prohibition of Silver Foils on Food Articles

*501. **SHRI O. P. TYAGI:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chandigarh Administration has prohibited the use of Silver foils on food articles including sweets manufactured for sale, storage or distribution in the Union Territory of Chandigarh for reasons of public health;

(b) what steps are being taken by Government for prohibiting the use of silver foils throughout the country; and

(c) the reasons for not taking any action under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act against the use of silver foils?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State/Union Territory Governments have been advised to prohibit, under the provisions of the prevention of Food Adulteration Act, use of silver foils in their respective jurisdiction in the interest of public health.

(c) Does not arise.