

ture incurred on the renovation and furnishing of the office in North Block of the Minister of Home Affairs on his assuming charge of that portfolio?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIXIT) : Before Shri Uma Shankar Dixit took over, the Prime Minister was also the Home Minister. She did not have a room in the North Block. When she relinquished charge of the Home Ministry and Shri Dikshit took over, office accommodation had to be found for him. A suitable room occupied by some sections was converted into H.M.'s Office, chamber and conference room incurring an expenditure of Rs. 7,575.61.

Minimum needs programme

- *97. **SHRI P. N. BISI** :
DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI :
SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI :
SHRI K. B. CHETTRI :
SHRI SHOWALESS K. SHILLA :
SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of **PLANNING** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the minimum needs programme evolved by the Planning Commission would remove regional imbalances and give the rural areas amenities like roads, drinking water, schools and hospitals; and

(b) whether Government propose to include these programmes in the Central Development Plan instead of including them in State Sector Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : (a) It is envisaged that the National Programme of Minimum Needs would contribute significantly to the reduction of regional imbalances by providing facilities for elementary education,

health, nutrition, rural water supply, rural roads, home sites for landless labour, rural electrification and environmental improvement if slums.

(b) The National Programme of Minimum Needs will be a distinct but integral part of the Fifth Five Year Plans of States and Union Territories, and special care will be taken for their effective implementation.

Closure of newspapers on account of newsprint shortage

- *98. **SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR** :
SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH :
SHRI KRISHAN KANT :
DR. Z. A. AHMAD :
SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :
SHRI J. S. TILAK :
SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE :
SHRI GURUMUKH SINGH MUSAFIR :

Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING** be pleased to state the names of newspapers recently closed down due to shortage of newsprint?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : No newspaper has closed down for shortage of newsprint although the following newspapers missed publication for short durations:

- (i) 'Nutan Saurashtra', -Gujarati Daily, Rajkot
 (ii) 'Rajasthan Patrika' Hindi Daily, Jaipur
 (iii) 'Nav Bharat', Hindi Daily, Bhopal
 (iv) 'Madhya Pradesh Chronicle', English Daily, Bhopal

The shortage of newsprint experienced by some newspapers is due either to consumption in excess of their entitlement or the non-availability of newsprint due to interruption of imports.