

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 2nd March, 1966/the
11th Phalguna, 1887 (Saka).

The House met at eleven of the clock
M. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

AMOUNT UTILISED FOR HOUSING SCHEMES

*290. SHRI D THENGARI. Will the
Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) how far the State Governments have
utilised the amount allotted for housing
schemes during the year 1964-65, State-
wise; and

(b) the names of the States which have
failed to utilise the amount in full ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND
URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B.
BHAGAVATI) : (a) and (b) A statement is
laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

*Amounts allocated and drawn by State Governments during 1964-65 for various Housing
Schemes*

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Plan Funds		L.I.C. Funds	
		Central assistance allocated	Central assistance drawn*	Amount allocated	Amount drawn
1	Andhra Pradesh	58.03	42.18	150.00	150.00
2	Assam	21.97	14.27	50.00	50.00
3	Bihar	68.20	102.77	110.00	100.00
4	Gujarat	150.70	120.65
5	Jammu and Kashmir . . .	53.00	42.63
6	Kerala	37.60	27.37	40.00	40.00
7	Madhya Pradesh	64.90	62.91	100.00	100.00
8	Madras	103.10	105.87	150.00	150.00
9	Maharashtra	249.60	246.89	150.00	150.00
10	Mysore	61.10	54.90	145.00	145.00
11	Orissa	40.35	33.35	130.00	130.00
12	Punjab	15.60	11.68	200.00	200.00
13	Rajasthan	17.78	16.12	75.00	75.00
14	Uttar Pradesh	108.68	138.98	50.00	50.00
15	West Bengal	400.02	251.51	150.00	150.00
TOTAL		1,350.63	1,272.08	1,500.00	1,500.00

*NOTE.—These figures represent the net amounts released to the State Governments during 1964-65. They also include arrear payments and additional Central assistance released in respect of employers' projects sanctioned prior to the 1st April 1964.

SHRI D. THENGARI : Do the figures of the Central assistance drawn as given in the Statement include arrear payments and additional Central assistance released in respect of employers' projects sanctioned prior to the 1st April 1961? It is not clear from the Statement what exact amounts the State Governments have utilised for housing schemes. While all other State Governments have failed to utilise fully the Central assistance, may I know whether the State Governments of Bihar, Madras and Uttar Pradesh also did not utilise the assistance allocated to them? Will the hon Minister clarify the position?

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI : Sir, the principal reason for this unsatisfactory performance is the fact that adequate funds for housing have not been provided in the State annual plans.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL : Why were they not provided?

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI : Because they did not give high priority to housing as compared to power, irrigation and agriculture and that is probably the reason why they have not provided adequately for housing and that is the reason why they cannot take full advantage of Central assistance also.

SHRI D. THENGARI : In view of the chronic indifference of the State Governments regarding this problem, may I know how the Central Government proposes to overcome this difficulty and is the Government aware that houses meant for low-income group people are allotted to people in the higher-income groups?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA : I would not like to blame the State Governments to that extent. Sir, there are two aspects of this problem. One is the loan given to us which we pass on to the State Governments. From the L.I.C. the total allocation was Rs. 60 crores and every penny of it has been utilised. The other is about Rs. 20 crores provided in the State plans. About Rs. 13 or Rs. 14 crores—I am talking from memory—they have spent. There is a shortfall but that shortfall is on account of the fact that a part of this money had to be diverted on account of the emergency to some of the priority

projects like irrigation, food agriculture and all that

श्री राम सहाय : क्या भू मंत्री महाशय से यह जान सकूंगा कि अभी कोई तीन-चार महीने से यह जो लोन दिया जाता है उसे रोक लिया गया है?

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : लोन राक तो नहीं लिया गया। फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब ने हम से कहा था कि चूक बजट की तकनीफ है, इसलिये जो कमिटेड एक्सपेंडीचर है उसके लिये पूछ लो। जब मैंने कमिटेड एक्सपेंडीचर पूछा तो 15 करोड़ 80 जो बांटना था उससे ज्यादा था और 15 करोड़ का 15 करोड़ स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को दे दिया गया।

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया : क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलायेंगे कि क्या 15 स्टेट्स में से केवल तीन स्टेट्स ऐसी रही जिन्होंने प्लान के लिये जो सेंट्रल असिस्टेंस अलोकेट किया था वह खर्च किया और उससे भी ज्यादा लिया और बाकी स्टेट्स ने पूरा खर्च किया नहीं? श्रीमान् ने अभी जवाब में बताया कि यह इरिगेशन और दूसरे प्रोजेक्ट्स पर लगाया गया। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह स्टेट्स के सजेशन पर आपने दूसरे प्रोजेक्ट्स पर लगाया, या स्टेट्स ने नहीं लिया, इसलिये आपको दूसरे कामों पर इसको लगाना पड़ा?

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : मेरे अख्तियार में हो तो मैं उनको एक पैसा भी डाइवर्ट करने की इजाजत नहीं दूँ, लेकिन प्लानिंग कमीशन का भी इस बात में बहुत-सा हिस्सा हो जाता है।

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA : Apart from the funds which are placed at the disposal of the State Governments by the Centre, may I know whether there are any States and, if so, which are those States which place part of their own funds also for building purposes?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: These are all social housing schemes. I am not talking of the P.W.D. or the C.P.W.D. schemes. These are social housing schemes and they have been in existence for about 10 or 12 years. There are various schemes like low-income group, middle-income group, rental, slum clearance, industrial labour, plantation labour and the like. We are talking of those schemes. They are divided into two heads, the L.I.C. loan schemes and the other schemes for which there is a certain amount of allocation from the Centre.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if the Government has considered the recommendation of the Conference of Housing ministers at Chandigarh in 1964 that the work of housing in various states and at the Centre be handed over to Housing Boards and, if so, what is the decision the Government has taken with regard to that?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: That was not the recommendation of the Chandigarh Conference. The recommendation of the Chandigarh Conference was that the work of housing should be centralised at the Centre and in the States. So I wrote to the various Chief Ministers drawing their attention to this recommendation and quite a number of them have accepted my suggestion.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know what amounts were allotted for housing schemes and how much of those amounts was allotted for rural housing and whether the amount allotted for rural housing was utilised by all the States or by some States and, if so, by which States?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I have not got the break-up of rural housing *vis-a-vis* the other schemes, but I have already stated and I repeat it also that the performance on the rural side has not been very encouraging. With that end in view we have now taken a revised decision whereby we are giving bigger incentives for the construction of houses in the rural sector.

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: May I know from the hon. Minister whether under the

slum clearance schemes the State Governments have not been able to give the amount of subsidy required with the result that the local bodies have not been able to fulfil any target with regard to slum clearance? Secondly, if the slum clearance houses have been built, they have been given on economic rents rather than on subsidised rents.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I would only venture to give a reply to the first part of the question because for the second part I will have to collect the information from the State Governments. Sir, there is a little bit of truth in it that the slum clearance schemes have not received the attention which the people and the Government would desire to be given. That matter was also discussed in the Housing Ministers' Conference at Chandigarh and about a month ago—before Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari handed over charge, two days before that—he was kind enough to increase the amount of subsidy and loan under 'Slums' from 75 per cent. to 87½ per cent. So now the State Governments would be required to pay only 12½ per cent. instead of 25 per cent. as before and I am hoping that with that increase in subsidy from the Centre, we will be able to take up the slum clearance schemes more effectively.

SHRI OM MEHTA: How much amount was allotted to Jammu and Kashmir State and how much out of it remained unutilised?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I have not got the figures but if the hon. Member would like me to say so, the performance in Jammu and Kashmir State has not been very encouraging.

PROF. M. B. LAL: Does not the Minister think that the break-up is necessary to assess the success in the rural area?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I do admit that and with that end in view we have taken certain steps to see that a greater incentive is given in the rural sector and we try to help the rural population as far as we can.