

(b) the number of transmitters so far received; and

(c) the names of the places where they have been installed?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN): (a) Fourteen.

(b) The bulk of equipment for ten transmitters has been received so far, but in most cases receipt of some auxiliary equipment is still outstanding.

(c) One transmitter has been installed at Gauhati and another at Delhi.

SHRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN: May I know, Sir, whether one of these transmitters will be installed at Trichi which is in urgent need of it?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: No, Sir. It does not come under this Colombo Plan quota.

مولانا ایم - فاروقی : کیا آنریبل منسٹر یہ بتانے کی تکلیف کرینگے کہ سنہ ۵۷-۱۹۵۶ میں انکی اسکیم کے ماتحت کتنے اس قسم کے ٹرانسمیٹرس لگائے گئے ہوں اور اس میں سے کتنے پورے ہوئے۔

[مولانا ام. فراہی : کیا آنریبل منسٹر یہ بتانے کی تکلیف کریں گے کہ سن ۱۹۵۶-۵۷ میں ان کی اسکیم کے ماتحت کتنے اس قسم کے ٹرانسمیٹرس لگائے گئے ہیں اور اس میں سے کتنے پورے ہوئے؟]

ڈا. بی. وی. کسکار : پوری تفصیل اس وقت بتانا میرے لیے مناسب نہیں ہوگا، لیکن آدھے سے زیادہ لگ چکے ہیں اور اگر نہیں لگے ہیں تو کام جاری ہے اور وہ اس سال میں لگ جائیں گے۔

SHRI M. VALIULLA: The notice of the question is with regard to the

†English translation.

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number of transmitters to be received from Australia under the Colombo Plan.

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: I said that the number is fourteen. Out of that we have received the bulk of the equipment.

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVAR-GIYA: May I know, Sir, whether the Government are going to set up a full-fledged transmitter at Bhopal in view of Bhopal becoming the capital of the new State?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Yes, Sir. Bhopal is going to have a transmitter. Work of erection has already begun.

HOUSES CONSTRUCTED UNDER THE LOW INCOME GROUP HOUSING SCHEME

*124. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses constructed under the Low Income Group Housing Scheme in the various States in the years 1955-56 and 1956-57;

(b) whether in some States the rules for advancing loans and their recovery have not yet been finalized and loans are not available; and

(c) the amount that lapsed till 31st March 1957 as not having been utilised for the low-income group houses?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha. [Placed in Library. See Appendix XVIII, Annexure No. 23.]

(b) All States have finalized rules etc., for advance and recovery of loans under the Scheme and loan-assistance is available in every State;

(c) Rs. 87 lakhs.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, how much loan was granted State-wise for the acquisition and development of sites?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: We can give that information only if a separate question is asked.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister is aware that the low-income housing work is done on three grounds, namely, (1) acquisition of sites and lands, (2) loans to individuals, and (3) loans to individuals in Bombay, Calcutta and other places? In view of these grounds, may I know how many development sites have actually been acquired in 1955-56 and 1956-57 and sold on a 'no profit no loss' basis?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: Sir, we have got to obtain this information from the State Governments, and therefore a separate question may be put.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know how many State Governments have actually constructed houses and sold them to individuals?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: We have information here with regard to the total number of houses constructed State-wise.

SHRI K. C. REDDY: Sir, if the question is whether houses have been constructed and sold to individuals, then the answer is that recently we have instructed the State Governments that they could build and then sell the houses or let out the houses on a 'hire' or 'hire-purchase' basis. Recently, we have passed an order to that effect.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, how many houses have been actually occupied by the individuals and how many have not yet been allotted by the various State Governments? Have the Government got any information on this subject?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: According to the information available to us at present, I do not think there are many houses which have not been let out. This is the responsibility of the State Governments. But I think there are

not many houses of the kind which the hon. Member has referred to.

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVAR-GIYA: In view of this specific question, Sir, may I know whether such rules for advancing loans have been formulated and finalised in Madhya Pradesh also?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: Well, Sir, three or four new States have recently taken up this matter, and these rules are under the examination of the Government.

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVAR-GIYA: Which are those four States?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: Bombay is one; Madhya Pradesh is another.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Sir, is the Government thinking of dropping the middle-income housing scheme wherein Government may have to give a loan up to Rs. 25 thousand per house? Is the Government thinking of diverting such funds for this low income housing scheme?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: Government have practically given up the middle-income housing scheme. At one time it was thought that we could draw upon the insurance companies' funds and utilise them for the purposes of middle-income housing scheme. As I have indicated already, we have now given up that scheme. We do not propose to proceed with it. The other day, in the Lok Sabha I made a statement regarding the new housing policy of the Government. I will lay a copy of that statement on the floor of this House tomorrow or day after, and after that I think the House can put separate questions for detailed information.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Since urban housing is becoming more and more expensive on account of rise in prices of cement and steel, is Government thinking of diverting more funds to rural housing as compared with urban housing?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: That is a suggestion for action.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: How many families have taken advantage of these low-income housing schemes?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: The statement gives the number of houses constructed. That will give the number of families.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Is the number of families the same as the number of houses?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: A family is not allowed to build two houses with Government help.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: May I know whether the rules for the grant and recovery of loans are made by each State Government or whether the Central Government makes uniform rules?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: The rules are made by the State Governments. They are responsible to the Central Government for the return of the money.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: May I know how much loans have been advanced in Rajasthan and how much money they have spent during the last year?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: There is a separate question by my friend, Mr. Valiulla, and the reply gives information about it. To Rajasthan during the current year 10 lakhs of rupees have been given.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: How much have they spent?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: That information I have not got with me.

SHAH MOHAMAD UMAIR: Although loans are being given under the housing schemes, is it not a fact

that in certain States for want of sufficient supply of steel and cement housing work is suffering very badly such as in Bihar?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: It is for the State Government to supply cement and steel for the houses to be constructed. It is not the Central Government's responsibility.

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Is it true that there is plenty of cement available in the black market?

(No reply.)

SHRI K. C. REDDY: I would like to add in reply to the previous question that there is general scarcity of steel and cement. What Bihar is suffering from is just of the same nature as what the other States are suffering from. I do not think there is any special disability to which Bihar has been put.

ASHOKA HOTELS LIMITED

*125. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the average monthly loss, if any, incurred by Government on the Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi;

(b) the total strength of the staff of the hotel; and

(c) the number of rooms and suites in the Hotel which are available for guests?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) The profit or loss of the Ashoka Hotel will be known only after its accounts have been compiled and audited for the year ending 30th September 1957.

(b) The total strength of the staff at present is 860;

(c) There are 242 rooms and 93 suites in the hotel.