

(c) CPWD Services Centres for Civil and Electrical services are operating from quarter No. 263, 267, 269 and 271. However, there is no cause of any problem to the residents because of this.

(d) Question does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

Revolving funds for Rejuvenation of the culturally significant cities

2365. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH "SURYA": Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing to set-up a revolving fund for rejuvenating the culturally significant cities/towns;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these towns/cities have been identified; and

(d) if so, the names thereof in the State of U.P.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (d) A scheme has been drawn up for rejuvenation of culturally significant cities. Preliminary work in this regard has been done and the detailed provisions of the scheme are under discussion with the State Governments and the Planning Commission. The scheme is likely to be given final shape shortly. Its basic objective, however, is to ensure that these culturally significant cities become vibrant centres not only of civic life but also of economic, social and cultural advancement. The cities to be covered by the scheme would be decided in consultation with the State Government but it is proposed as a general proposition to select at least one culturally significant town in each small State and two in the large States. The city/cities to be covered under the scheme has not been decided.

Funds allocation for housing facilities to SCs/STs During Ninth Plan.

2366. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the "forum of SC/ST Parliamentarians" in their representations submitted to the Prime Minister on 17th December, 1996, 1st September, 1997 and 23rd July, 1998 have demanded allocation of funds for the development of SCs/STs in proportion to their population from Ninth Plan onwards; and

(b) if so, the amount of funds demanded by his Ministry in the Ninth Plan for providing housing facilities to SCs/STs residing in urban areas and funds procured and utilized for this purpose and percentage thereof as compared to the total allocation for housing sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation had not asked for funds in the 9th Plan for providing housing facilities for any category hence there was no occasion for seeking funds for SC/ST category separately. At present there is no Central Sector Housing Scheme for any Category in Urban Areas.

Mega City Scheme

2367. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mega City Scheme is Centrally-sponsored scheme;

(b) if so, the amount of money allocated and disbursed for this since its inception, year-wise;

(c) the corresponding amounts allocated and spent by respective State Governments during the concerned period;

(d) whether Government are considering any enhancement of Central allocation in view of the importance of the scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir. A centrally Sponsored Mega City Scheme was introduced in 1993-94.

(b) and (c) A statement enclosed. (See below)

(d) and (e) Planning Commission have informed that an evaluation / impact assessment of the scheme is required to be done before any kind of change could be considered.