

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Housing in U.P. under I.A.Y.**

†*381. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of people belonging to Scheduled Castes who have been provided housing facilities under Indira Awas Yojana in Azamgarh and Mau districts of U.R during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are a lot of poor families who don't have any housing facility and Government are finding it difficult to provide them complete housing facilities; and

(c) whether Government would issue necessary directions to State Government for providing funds to all the poor families so that they can get housing facilities in time?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) As per information received from State Government of Uttar Pradesh, during the last three years, 5653 and 1963 houses have been constructed under the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) in Azamgarh and Mau districts respectively for Scheduled Castes Below the Poverty Line (BPL) families in rural areas.

(b) Presently resources are not adequate to meet the requirement. However, this Ministry through its various rural housing programmes is trying to provide assistance for construction of as many houses for rural poor as possible within the available financial resources.

(c) Under the IAY, in the beginning of every financial year, State-wise and District-wise targets are fixed on the basis of predetermined criteria. Fixing of targets and coverage solely depends on the availability of budget provision on year to year basis.

Mega Power Projects in Uttaranchal

*387. SHRI ISAM SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether 20,000 MW of power is likely to be generated in Uttaranchal provided some mega power projects are constructed for the exploitation of water in that State;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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(b) if so, whether Government have any scheme in this regard;

(c) whether any time schedule in this regard has been set by Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) The Central Electricity Authority had identified a hydro power potential of approximately 18,000 MW in Uttaranchal.

(b) and (c) The harnessing of this potential depends on commercial viability of these schemes, availability of environment, forest and other clearances, prospective buyers of generated power and identification of implementing agencies for the projects. 6 hydro electric projects with an installed capacity of 3,384 MW are expected to give benefit within the Tenth Plan period. It is tentatively estimated that around 4,000 MW could be set up during the Eleventh Plan in Uttaranchal. The Ministry of Power has sanctioned a scheme to prepare pre-feasibility reports for 162 hydro electric schemes in the country having an installed capacity of approximately 50,000 MW, out of which 39 schemes of 6,374 MW are in Uttaranchal.

(d) Does not arise.

Functioning of Panchayati Raj Bodies and Municipalities

†*391. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' :

SHRI LAJPAT RAI :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a need for making the functioning of gram panchayats and municipalities more effective and strong for the balanced development of the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that an amendment in the Constitution was made in the year 1992 in the direction of making the said institutions effective; and

(d) if so, the steps taken so far in order to make functioning of these institutions effective?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.