

through social and economic uplift of these sections that the practice can be eradicated completely.

Low Cost Sanitation

*657. SHRI SOBHANDREESWARA RAO VADEE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMNT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an integrated programme for low cost sanitation has been launched;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether any complaints regarding alleged misuse of low cost sanitation funds by different States have been received during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The objective of the scheme is to totally eliminate manual scavenging involved in the cleaning of dry latrines or open defecation and convert/construct low cost sanitation unit through sanitary two-pit pourflush latrines with appropriate variations to suit local conditions. This would result in liberating scavengers from manual scavenging who are then rehabilitated with assistance from the Ministry of Welfare. The scheme has been taken up on a 'Whole Town' basis to cover 500 towns annually. It is being operated through the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) by providing a mix of subsidy from the Central Government and loan from HUDCO in a synchronised manner as per the following financing pattern.

	<i>Subsidy</i>	<i>Loan</i>	<i>Beneficiary Contribution</i>
EWS	45%	50%	5%
LIG	25%	60%	15%
MIG/HIG	Nil	75%	25%

HUDCO is extending loan on interest at the rate of 10% per annum. The loan is recoverable in 7 years. A Coordination Committee has been set up in the Ministry of Urban Development for clearing proposals received from the State Governments. No specific amount is allocated State-wise for implementation of the Scheme. The amount to be sanctioned depends on the actual proposals received from the local bodies through the State Governments with reference to the number of units to be converted/constructed.

(c) No such complaints have been received by Central Government.

(d) Question does not arise.

Mini Hydrel Project

* 658. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:
DR. SAKSHIJI:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state: