

STATEMENT

(a) The Working Group on Housing set up in the context of formulation of 8th Five Year Plan proposals has estimated that during 8th Five Year Plan 9.55 million dwelling comprising 7.8 million new construction and 1.75 million upgradation will be required in the urban areas of country.

(b) and (c). Housing is a State subject and the State and Union Territory Governments are free to formulate housing schemes for various target groups in accordance with their priority and with due regard to the State Plan provisions and other resources. Apart from the public sector, private and household sector contribute considerably to increase in the housing stock.

The Sub-Group on Magnitude of Housing Problem set up by the Planning Commission has estimated that in order to meet the housing requirement as indicated at (a) above, an outlay of Rs. 57,180 crores at constant prices would be required to be provided in the public and private sector during 8th Plan period. The actual physical achievement during the plan period would; however, depend on the resources available in the 8th Plan in the public sector and the extent of house construction undertaken by the private and household sector. It is possible to estimate the likely construction of houses over 1992-97 only after the 8th Plan is finalised.

[English]

Benefits of Customs Duty Concessions to Customers

*96. SHRI ATAL BIHARI
VAJPAYEE:
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of drugs for which customs duty concessions have been announced during the last three years and the total amount involved in terms of rupees;

(b) whether these concessions were meant to be passed on to the consumers by reducing the prices of these medicines;

(c) if so, the names of medicines whose prices have come down as a result of the customs duty concessions and the extent of relief given to the consumers in terms of rupees;

(d) whether the concessional amount is in proportion to the relief given to the consumers, if not the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken to remedy the situation.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The number and name of drugs for which customs duty concession have been announced during the last three years are given in the different notifications issued by the Ministry of Finance from time to time, the copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. The total amount, of customs duty concession in term of rupees depends on the production in the country based on the use of such imported material.

(b) to (e). The concessions in customs duty are allowed to encourage the production of bulk drugs from a more basic stage and thereby save foreign exchange. It is not linked necessarily in every case to reduction in the price of bulk drugs. The prices of scheduled drugs are fixed from time to time in accordance with the procedures and norms laid down under the provisions of DPCO, 1987. Whenever there is customs duty concession on any drug/drug intermediate, the reduced price is taken into account for fixing

the price of bulk drugs and formulations. Regarding non-scheduled drugs Government keeps a watch on the movements of their prices.

Quantity of Sugar Required for Consumption

*97. SHRI VJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of sugar required during the period from April 1, 1991 to March 31, 1992 for domestic consumption as well as for the purpose of buffer stock;

(b) the quantity of sugar likely to be produced during the above period;

(c) whether it is proposed to export sugar during this period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The estimated requirement of sugar for domestic consumption for the period April 1, 1991 to March 31, 1992 would be 115.24 lakh tonnes. At present there is no such proposal to build up a buffer stock of sugar.

(b) 119.16 lakh tonnes of sugar is likely to be produced during the aforesaid period.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) About 5.295 lakh tonnes of sugar is proposed to be exported during the aforesaid period.

Housing Schemes in Kerala

*98. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted to the Union Government some housing schemes for clearance and financial assistance;

(b) if so, whether the Government have given clearance to all these schemes; and

(c) if so, the financial assistance proposed to be given to each such scheme?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL):

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). A preliminary proposal seeking Central Govt's assistance for implementation of Rajiv One Million Housing Scheme to be implemented in a period of 5 years commencing 1991-92, has been received from the Government of Kerala. Housing is a State subject and various schemes formulated by the State governments are to be implemented by it with available plan provision, internal resources of State agencies and institutional finance. No Central clearance for these schemes is required except for those falling under Central schemes like Indira Awas Yojana. The examination of the proposal for Central assistance would require detailed consultation with the State Government, concerned Central Government agencies and financial institutions, and as such no financial commitment can be made by the Central Government at this stage.

Development of New Technologies as a Result of Space Programmes

*99. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether many new technologies, processes and products have been devel-