

AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The DDA has reported that following allotments have been made on Out of Turn basis during the last five years. Year-wise details are as under:-

1992	55
1993	127
1994	54
1995	19
1996	01

List containing the names of out of turn allotments made and the grounds for such allotments will be laid on the Table of the Sabha. Out of turn allotments are made as per the approved policy and guidelines of the Govt. of India on the recommendations of the Empowered Committee of Govt. of India. All O.T. Allotments are made on cash-down basis unless there is a specific decision taken by the Empowered Committee for allotment on hire purchase basis.

(b) The number of flats constructed and allotted during the last five years are as under:-

Year	Constructed	Allotted
1992-93	7,876	10,218
1993-94	7,661	18,702
1994-95	6,844	10,365
1995-96	2,298	5,933
1996-97	7,743	21,493

The allotment figures shown above contains allotment of surrendered/cancelled flats already allotted. In fact the allotment of flats is a continuous process.

Sometimes it is not possible to allot as many flats as are constructed in the same year because of a number of factors including non-availability of provisions like electricity and water.

(c) No choice of locality has been provided in the Scheme of N.P.R.S.-1979.

(d) There is no proposal to give preference of choice of area of floor in the Scheme of N.P.R.S.-1979.

SAARC Nations

6055. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the objectives of establishing the SAARC and to what extent these objectives have been achieved, so far;

(b) whether there is any proposal to extend the scope of SAARC for establishing a common market and common currency among the SAARC Nations;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) SAARC was established in 1985 with its prime objectives as the promotion of the welfare of the people of South Asia and the improvement of their quality of life, and acceleration of economic growth, social progress, and cultural development in the Region. In pursuance of these objectives, Inter-Governmental negotiations under the South Asian Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA) have seen accelerated progress and Member States have collectively decided to strive towards a South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), preferably by the year 2000 but before 2005 AD in any case. Other areas of economic cooperation include promotion of investment, customs harmonisation, arbitration and standardisation. Technical cooperation in 11 agreed fields of common interest to SAARC Member States is pursued under the integrated programme of action. A mechanism has been set up for eradication of poverty in the region and particular emphasis has been placed on the welfare of women and children, youth, environmental issues and people to people contacts.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No such proposals have been brought for consideration before the SAARC Committee on Economic Cooperation (CEC), which oversees Economic Cooperation issue of SAARC and makes its recommendations to the Council of Ministers.

[Translation]

ESI Hospital in M.P.

6056. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the construction cost, amount spent and present status of construction of hospital being constructed for Labour Welfare under ESI (State Employees Health Insurance Scheme) at Nagda in Ujjain district of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be constructed ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The ESI Corporation has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 2,78,99,401.00 for construction of a 50 bedded ESI Hospital at Nagda (M.P.). A sum of Rs. 261.00 Lakh has already been released for the Project. The building of the Hospital is structurally complete and it is likely to be commissioned during the current year.

[English]

Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority

6057. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to set up Unified Metropolitan