

(b) since when are those cases under investigation and the reasons for delay in the finalisation thereof, and

(c) the steps being taken to expedite the completion/ finalisation of investigation and submission in the courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) As on September 30, 1996 1866 cases were under investigation with various branches of the CBI

(b) the details of pendency of these cases is as under :-

(i) less than 6 months	623
(ii) over 6 months but less than 1 year	421
(iii) over 1 year but less than 2 years	398
(iv) over 2 years	424
Total	1866

The delay in completion of investigation is caused due to reasons such as complicated nature of cases, references made to experts, Letters Rogatory sent abroad to various countries who have different legal systems, investigations spread over to several States all over the country etc.

(c) The progress of cases at investigation stage and thereafter is closely monitored by Senior CBI Officers and bottlenecks removed wherever required for submission of cases in the courts where these are decided as per the law of the land.

Food Processing Industries

2738 SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there are ample scope of setting up of food processing industries in Southern Assam particularly that of pine apple, orange and jack fruit, and

(b) whether Government is considering to do the needful to set up such industries in Southern Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) and (b). A lot of potential exists for the development of food processing industries through out the country which is evident from that fact that considerable investments are being attracted to this Sector since liberalisation. Government have taken

various steps to promote food processing industries in the country which inter alia include declaration of most food processing industries as high priority, delicensing of food processing industries except brewing and distillation of alcoholic beverages and those items reserved for small scale sector, promoting domestic foreign/NRI investments etc. Government is also operating various Plan Schemes for promoting food processing industries in the country.

While the Ministry does not set up any food processing unit in any State directly, under the Plan Schemes being operated by the Organisations/Joint/ Assisted Sector/Cooperatives/Voluntary Organisations etc. for setting up/upgradation/expansion of food processing facilities. Financial assistance amounting to Rs.752.28 lakhs has been extended in respect of proposals received from Assam, during the first four years of the Eighth Plan.

Dereservation of Ice-Cream and Bakery Items

2739 SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for dereservation of ice-cream and bakery items from the small-scale sector.

(b) whether the Government propose to allow multi-nationals in these items, and

(c) the effect of such suggestion/proposals on the small-scale sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (c). As per the current policy ice-cream and bakery items are reserved for manufacturing in the small scale sector.

Land Allotment

2740 SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Cooperative Group Housing Societies whose lakhs of rupees is held up with the Parshad Cooperative Bank are being deprived of the land allotment despite the fact that these societies have already deposited the amount demanded by DDA without adjusting held up amount.

(b) if so, the names of such societies alongwith the reasons for non-allotment of land.

(c) whether DDA has adjusted any interest amount of Rs.5 lakh already deposited by these societies

as earnest money at the time of land allotment earlier and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The Delhi Development Authority has reported that four Cooperative Group Housing Societies had represented that their money which was lying with the Parishad Bank may be adjusted against the demanded cost of land. These Societies are (i) Dabas CGHS (ii) Ashoka Enclave (iii) Priyadarshini CGHS and (iv) Veg Sanchar Vihar. Their requests have been rejected because under the rules, the allotment can be made only to those Societies who deposit the demanded amount equivalent to 35% of the cost of land within the stipulated period.

(c) and (d). No, Sir, as there is no such provision in the Rules.

Additional Assistance by HUDCO

2741. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal for sanction of additional assistance of Rs.65 crores from HUDCO for implementation of housing programme under EWS was sent by Andhra Pradesh Government during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) whether HUDCO has agreed to provide additional funds, and

(d) if so, the time by which the funds are likely to be released by HUDCO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government made a request to HUDCO in October, 1995 to provide increased loan assistance of Rs.65 crores during 1995-96 to meet their requirement of construction of 2,05,008 houses for weaker section in rural areas.

(c) HUDCO could not meet the requirement of State Government fully because State-wise loan allocation had already been decided by that time according to area/population, demand and performance of State Agencies. On that basis HUDCO had allocated Rs.12.35 crores under EWS (Rural) during 1995,96. However, HUDCO had agreed to permit the State Government to utilise Rs.19.00 crores earmarked for LIG, for the EWS (Rural) schemes, provided the State Government bears the burden of difference of interest rate between EWS

and LIG. Thus a total amount of Rs.31.35 crores was made available to the State Government by HUDCO for EWS (Rural) schemes.

(d) The entire amount of Rs.31.35 crores has been released by HUDCO by the end of March, 1996.

[Translation]

Sanctioned Posts of OBC

2742. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the grade-wise number of sanctioned posts in the different Ministries/departments/other sub-ordinate offices of the Government of India and the number of posts out of these held by the OBC officers recruited through open examinations and appointed under general category.

(b) the number of OBC officers/employees appointed till 31st July, 1996 after the implementation of the new reservation policy.

(c) whether the complaints have been received regarding non-filling up of these posts reserved for OBC candidates, and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to fill-up the posts reserved for the OBC candidates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) The information is not being centrally maintained.

(b) Keeping in view the high priority accorded by the Government to successful implementation of the decision regarding 27% reservation for members of the other backward classes, it was stressed on the Ministries/Departments that date relating to their recruitment in a particular year should be available soon after the year is over. As per information received from 24 of the 65 Ministries/Departments, 7160 candidates belonging to other backward classes have been appointed upto 31.12.95.

(c) No such instance has come to the notice of this Department.

(d) Does not arise.

Rural Artisans

2743. DR. VALLABHABHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes formulated/implemented for the upliftment of rural artisans so far.