

by suitable reorganisation of duties among the existing staff.

10. National Committee on use of plastics in Agriculture would institute a national award for meritorious adoption of plastics in Agriculture in the country.

11. Standardisation of plastic materials used in the Agriculture should be taken up by the Indian Standards Institution.

(c) These recommendations are being circulated to all State Governments and State Agricultural Universities for taking necessary action to popularise the use of plastics in Agriculture.

(d) Various plasticulture applications are being tried in different parts of the country under varied agro-climatic conditions. No assessment has been made so far regarding the benefits expected to accrue to the farmers.

[Translation]

#### Formulation of MEG scheme

5696. SHRI DILIP BHURIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any suggestions have been received to formulate and implement a minimum employment guarantee scheme for ten years in order to find a permanent solution for backward and draught affected tribal areas in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) :  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The suggestions have been sent to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for necessary action.

[English]

#### HUDCO loans to Karnataka for water supply

5697. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has requested HUDCO for assistance to solve the drinking water problem in 133 towns in the State;

(b) if so, the total amount sought for from HUDCO; and

(c) the amount sanctioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) No Sir. However, the Government of Karnataka had initially sought loan assistance from HUDCO for water supply schemes for 13 towns. Out of these, 4 towns have been kept in abeyance by the State Government.

(b) Out of the 13 towns referred to above, the Government of Karnataka have sought loan assistance of Rs. 268.75 lakhs for water supply schemes in 9 towns only.

(c) The HUDCO has sanctioned Rs. 40 lakhs for the Chickmagalur water supply scheme. Other schemes are still under correspondence.

#### No Objection Certificate for slum clearance in Bombay

5698. SHRI D. B. PATIL : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there are about 50,000 hutments on Union Government lands in Bombay;

(b) whether Government of Maharashtra have requested Central Government for 'No Objection Certificate' to carry out slum improvement schemes for such slums;

(c) if so, when the request was made; and