

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 5,000/- towards costs of petition as awarded by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

(c) Action is being taken against some officials responsible.

Jute Mills in Default of EPF Deposits

4620. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to take action against the owners of the jute mills who have misappropriated workers' EPF amount;

(b) the number of cases, where action has been taken against the defaulting jute mill owners during the last six months; and

(c) the details of the action taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The EPF authorities are already taking necessary legal and penal action under the EPF Act, as also under section 406/409 IPC, against the management of the defaulting jute mills. However in the case of certain defaulting jute mills who have given their consent to have arrears of provident fund dues upto 30.6.86 deducted at the rate of 8% from out of all purchases on Government account, no penal action is being taken.

(b) and (c) According to the EPF authorities, 2462 complaints (including those against the management of defaulting jute mills) were lodged with the police authorities under section 406/409 IPC for mis-appropriation of workers share of provident fund upto 30.9.86. The Police authorities are reported to have arrested 14 persons (including 5 from the jute mills) on the basis of complaints lodged by RPF, West Bengal.

Committee on Panchayati Raj System

4621. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had set up a Committee for examining the functioning and suggesting the strengthening of the Panchayati Raj System under the Chairmanship of L.M. Singhvi;

(b) if so, the date on which the Committee was set up, the terms of reference and the likely date by which the Committee had been asked to submit its report;

(c) the main findings and recommendations contained in the report and the decision taken by Government on them;

(d) whether the recommendations would be forwarded to the State Governments for their opinion; and

(e) whether a model legislation for Panchayati Raj Institutions would be enacted by the Centre ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) and (b) A Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. L.M. Singhvi on 16.6.86 to prepare a Concept paper on democratic decentralisation, and the present status and functions of panchayatiraj institutions and etc.

The Committee submitted the draft concept paper on 28th November, 1986. Some of the important findings and recommendations are given in the statement given below.

(c) to (e) The concept paper is being circulated to State Governments. Panchayati Raj is a State subject and, therefore, any legislation on the subject can be enacted only by the State legislatures.

Statement

Finding and recommendations of Dr. Singhvi Committee on Panchayati Raj.

Findings :

1. Elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions were not held for years together;

2. Panchayati Raj Institutions declined because of lack of conceptual clarity, absence of political will and denial of national priority.
3. The Committee feels that bureaucratic structure and devolutionary strategies cannot achieve people's participation in a meaningful manner.
4. Institutions of local self-government have often been reluctant to raise revenue resources by the exercise of their taxing powers.

Recommendations :

1. Villages may be reorganised and many of them may in the process be grouped and enlarged in order to make for more viable Village panchayats.
2. The Panchayati Raj Institutions have to be viewed as institutions of self-government which would naturally facilitate the participation of the people in the process of planning and development flowing from and as part of the concept of self-government. Development planning should be democratic planning.
3. The operational dynamics of Panchayati Raj should be directed to achieve community and social mobilisation, transcending the barriers of caste, religion, sex and disparities of wealth and surmounting social disabilities and disadvantages.
4. Local self-government should be constitutionally recognised, protected and preserved by the inclusion of a new chapter in the Constitution.
5. A Panchayati Raj Judicial Tribunal to be constituted in each State to

adjudicate controversies in relation to elections, suspensions, supersessions, dissolutions, and other matters relating to the working of Panchayati Raj institutions and its elected personnel.

6. Ways and means should be found to ensure the availability of adequate financial resources of Panchayati Raj institutions to function effectively.

Sale of Asiad Flats

4622. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Asiad flats which have been sold so far to the public sector under takings and financial institutions alongwith the details in regard to the type of flats and the amount received for each flat ;

(b) whether any of the Asiad flats have been auctioned and if so, the amount received for each flat : and

(c) if not, the reasons for not selling these flats so far and making use of the sale proceeds in other housing projects of D.D.A. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) 282. Details in regard to the names of public Sector Undertakings/Financial Institutions, type of flats/flat allotted and disposal cost, are given in the statement I given below.

(b) The requisite information is given in the statement II given below.

(c) The question does not arise in view of reply to parts (a) and (b) above.