

(b) to (d). The Government is not yet aware of the recommendations as these, in their draft form are reportedly being considered by the Executive Body of the International Society of City and Regional Planners an international organisation.

Ban on Telecast of TV Serial 'Tamas'

990. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
DR. DATTA SAMANT:
SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA
MURTHY:
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of organisations and freedom fighters have demanded to ban the telecast of 'Tamas' by Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether Government have assessed the reaction of viewers on the telecast of Tamas; and

(d) if so, the reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING: (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: (a) and (b). Some parties/organisations wanted Doordarshan to stop the telecast of 'Tamas'. They felt that it might have adverse effects on the viewers.

(c) and (d). Government has not undertaken any survey to assess the reactions of viewers on the telecast of 'Tamas'. However, while the serial was on, an opinion poll in Bombay conducted on behalf of a newspaper showed that a majority of respondents wanted the telecast of 'Tamas' to continue.

Housing Shortage in the Country

991. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news-item captioned "Housing shortage runs to 24 million units" in the Hindustan Times dated 8th December, 1987;

(b) whether it is a fact that the shortage of houses and slum population in the country is rapidly increasing; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to solve the problem?

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

(b) Based on the 1981 census, the N.B.O. has estimated housing shortage of 24.7 million in 1985 and the increase in housing shortage at the rate of 0.9 million units per annum. The slum population estimated at 29.9 million in 1981 is expected to go up to 51.49 million in 1991.

(c) Housing & Urban Developments are State subjects and all social Housing Schemes are implemented by the States/U.T. Admns. themselves according to their needs and plan priorities. Central financial assistance is given to the States/U.T. Admns. in the shape of block loans and block grants without being tied to any particular head of development. However, at the national level, several steps have been taken to meet the housing shortage, some of which are as follows:—

- (i) The Public Sector outlay for housing has been raised from Rs. 1490.87 crores in the Sixth Five Year Plan to Rs. 2458.21 crores in the Seventh Five Year Plan.
- (ii) The norms of income eligibility, ceiling cost of construction and ceiling of Government loan