SHRI ARIUN SINGH BHA-DORTA: SHRI SUDHIR OHOSAL:

Written Answers

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the study group on wages, incomes and prices headed by Shri Bhoothalingam has submitted its reports;
- (b) ifso, what are the main recommendations made ; and
- (c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The detailed list of recommendations is at Appendix C of the Report, which has already been laid on the Table of the House.
 - (c) The Report is under examination.

Purchase of Bidi Tobacco by Cooperatives and Bidi Manufacturers

975. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: SHRI AMARSINH V. RAT-HAWA :

Minister of COMMERCE. Will the CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERA-TION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether some cooperatives and bidi manufacturers have approached the Government to grant some credit for the purchase of bidi tobacco in order to relieve the distress of tobacco growers;
- (b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) whether Government are also considering to purchase bidi tobacco to help the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG):

(a) During the discussions held with the representatives of growers of bidi tobacco, co-operatives and other agencies co-operatives and other agencies purchasing bidi tobacco and bidi manu-facturers during May-June, 1978, it was indicated that availability of credit was acting as constraint in larger purchases of bidi tobacco.

(b) The Government is prepared to assist in relieving credit problems if any, of such co-operative or state units who intend to purchase additional quantities of tobacco, over and above their normal purchases, direct from the tobacco growers. The underlying idea is that these agencies may purchase tobacco according to their own commercial judgement and at prices higher than those to be given by National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation (NAFED) under its purchase operation indicated in reply to part (c) below, which it has undertaken to relieve the distress of the growers.

(c) NAFED have already been asked to buy 25,000 tonnes of non-virginia tobacco, including bidi tobacco, to help the farmers.

Accommodation and Tariff Rates for Januar Hotel at Delhi

976. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of accommodation tariff etc. of the Janata Hotel being built in Delhi:
- (b) whether there are proposals to have such Janata Hotels in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) The 1250-bed Janata Hotel (Ashoka Yatri Niwas) in New Delhi, which is expected to be commissioned in phases during 198e-81, will consist of 505 double bedded rooms and 60 four bedded family rooms with attached toilets. In addition, there will be a restaurant-cum-coffee shop, a speciality restaurant, a shopping arcade, tourist information offices and a recreation room. The initial tariff for the standard room and spécial categories will be so adjusted as to give an average tariff of Rs. 18/- per bed per day.

(b) and (c). Apart from Delhi, the Sixth Five Year Plan envisages the construction of Janata Hotels in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The allocations for each of these hotels will be made after detailed schemes in respect of each unit are finalised, dependent on resources available.

UNDP Assistance to India

- 977. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :
- (a) The quantum of UNDP assistance to India during 1972-76 cycle together with the details of projects and aid; and