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Urn of Lord Buddha

- (b) by acquiring land which may not be very expensive at present.

The Land Bank may be used to allot land at cost price to builders or any other agencies such as State Housing Boards, State Development Authorities, Cooperative Societies and such NGOs which the State Governments feel will help in achieving the social objective of building houses for economically weaker sections and low income groups.

6. The colonising scheme for mixed housing and construction of EWS/LIG housing has been successfully experimented in some of the States/cities. State Government may consider permitting the commercial use and in lieu of that, colonisers may construct EWS/LIG houses. Successful models such as those in Haryana and Maharashtra etc., may be taken into consideration while making such schemes.

These guidelines are recommendatory in nature and it would be the prerogative of the State Governments to make suitable amendments and additions as per their requirements. The ultimate objective would be social equality.

[Translation]

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Misuse of ISI Marks

96. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of **FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints that some industries have been using ISI mark on their products without getting license from the Bureau of Indian Standards during 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed by the Government against such firms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) The total number of complaints registered against firms on account of alleged misuse of ISI Mark on products during 1997-98 and 1998-99 (as on 31st January, 1999) was 108.

(c) As and when the Bureau of Indian Standards comes across any case of misuse of ISI Mark, action as envisaged under the BIS Act, 1986 is taken against the erring parties. Out of the total number of 108 cases mentioned above, prosecution, so far, has been launched in 42 cases and 18 cases have been closed for want of evidence etc.

97. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of **HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a sacred urn of Lord Buddha was found during the excavation in Vaishali of Bihar;

(b) if so, the amount proposed to be provided by the Government to construct a building for keeping the said urn; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHR JOSHI) : (a) An urn believed to contain the relics of Lord Buddha was unearthed at Vaishali during 1957-58.

(b) The urn is the property of the Patna Museum, Govt. of Bihar. There is no proposal with the Government of India for the construction of a building for the urn.

(c) Does not arise.

SC/ST/OBC Below Poverty Line

98. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of **SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Classes living below the poverty line in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to take any step to improve their condition; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Information in respect of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is attached as statement. No such data is available in respect of Other Backward Classes.

(b) and (c) Various poverty alleviation programmes are being implemented under the strategy of Special Component Plan for SCs and Tribal Sub-Plan for STs. In addition, a number of Central and Centrally sponsored programmes are being implemented through the State Governments/ U.T. Administrations for socio-economic and educational advancement of SCs and STs, the details of which are available in the Annual Report of the Ministry for 1997-98 placed in the Parliament Library.

Besides, exclusive State Plan programmes for upliftment of the standards of SCs and STs population are being implemented. Government have also set up Finance and Development Corporations for SCs

and STs as also OBCs to promote economic and developmental activities amongst the target groups by way of extending financial assistance at concessional rates.

Statement

Percentage of Population below Poverty Line by States - 1993-94 (as per the Official Methodology)

S.No.	States	Rural		Urban	
		Scheduled Caste	Scheduled Tribe	Scheduled Caste	Scheduled Tribe
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26.02	25.66	43.82	46.68
2.	Assam	45.38	41.44	14.34	7.11
3.	Bihar	70.66	69.45	55.16	35.76
4.	Gujarat	32.26	31.20	44.99	35.47
5.	Haryana	46.56	41.55	23.58	0.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	36.89	63.94	18.52	0.00
7.	Karnataka	46.36	37.33	61.59	62.05
8.	Kerala	36.43	37.34	31.59	1.08
9.	Madhya Pradesh	45.83	56.69	65.00	65.28
10.	Maharashtra	51.64	50.58	52.56	61.06
11.	Orissa	48.95	71.26	47.45	64.85
12.	Punjab	22.08	27.00	27.96	0.00
13.	Rajasthan	38.38	46.23	48.63	13.21
14.	Tamilnadu	44.05	44.37	61.50	30.08
15.	Uttar Pradesh	58.99	37.11	58.02	36.89
16.	West Bengal	45.29	61.95	37.73	19.41
All-India		48.11	51.94	49.48	41.14

N.B. (i) The estimates are based on the methodology outlined in the Report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor.

(ii) The poverty line for all population is used for Sc's and STs'.

(iii) All India poverty ratio is worked out from the NSS distribution of persons and (implicit) all-India poverty line.

[English]

Navodaya Vidyalayas

99. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has represented for setting up more Navodaya Vidyalayas in the State;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(c) the locations of the proposed Vidyalayas?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti has received a proposal from Government of Kerala for opening of a Navodaya Vidyalaya in District Wynad. It has been decided in principle to open a Navodaya Vidyalaya in District Wynad subject to provision of requisite physical facilities, as per norms of the Samiti, by the State Government.