

Financial Assistance by HUDCO to Madhya Pradesh Projects

*396. SHRI AJYA MUSHRAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Housing Board had sent any proposals to HUDCO for financial assistance during 1985-86 and 1986-87; and

(b) if so, the proposals approved for sanction by the Housing and Urban Development Corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) HUDCO sanctioned 22 projects with a loan assistance of Rs. 13.46 crores during 1985-86 and 11 projects during 1986-87 (upto 31.10.86) with a loan assistance of Rs. 7.84 crores received from the Madhya Pradesh Housing Board.

Functioning of Mini Steel Plants

*397. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mini steel plants functioning in the country at present;

(b) whether the functioning of these plants has been satisfactory; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up a mini steel plant in Kerala during the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) 159 mini steel plants have been installed in the country at present.

(b) The mini steel plants have represented to the Government that they are facing financial problems due to the high price of scrap, inadequate availability of power and low market price of billets and have requested for grant of concessions such as a reduction in import duty on scrap and excise duty on billets produced by them.

(c) An application from M/s. Steel Industrials Kerala Limited, an undertaking of the Government of Kerala, for setting up a mini steel plant has been received and is being processed.

Closing of Central State Farm, at Melchengum, Tamil Nadu

*398. SHRI A. JAYAMOHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to close the Central State Farm at Melchengum, Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to hand over the farm to a co-operative society in order to safeguard the interests of the employees and the agricultural workers ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G. S. DHILLON) : (a) and (b). As the Melchengum farm has been running in loss for many years, Government are examining the issue of closing this farm. No final decision has yet been taken.

(c) Does not arise.

Construction of Buildings on Plots in Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi

*399. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :
DR A. K. PATEL :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total loss suffered by the DDA on some commercial plots in Bhikaji Cama place for being allowed constructions without the prior sanction of building plans;

(b) whether the prescribed penalty was charged when the constructions were regularised in 1985; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the difference between the penalty prescribed and actually charged ?