(b) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research proposes to make better use of land to improve farm strategies; and

(c) if so the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICUL-TURE, (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes.

(c) The research programmes of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and State Agricultural Universities have been reoriented for developing better land use management systems.

उत्तर प्रदेश में खेतिहर मजव्र

1384. अर्थे अत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : क्या अज्ञ मंत्री यह बताने की कुपा करेंगे कि:

 (क) उत्तर प्रदेश में कितने खेतिहर मजदूर हैं;

(ख) उनकी दणा में सुधार लाने हेतु क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं; ग्रौर

(ग) क्या उन पर जीवन बीमा योजना लागू की जाएगी और यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है?

जत प्रोर कल्याण संत्रो (श्री राम विकास पातवान): (क) भारत की जनगणनः, 1981 के ब्रनुसार, उत्तर प्रदेश में 51.8 लाख खेतिहर मजदूर थे।

(ख) खोतहर मजदूरों को लागू विभिन्न शम काननों के ग्रलावा एकीकृत ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम ग्रीर जवाहर रोजगार योजना जैसे गरीवी-निवारण कार्यकर्मो के पैकेज समाज के गरीब वर्गों को मजदूरी रोजगार ग्रीर स्व--रोजगार उपलब्ध करा रहे हैं जिसमें बहत वडी संख्या में खेतिहर मजदूर शामिल हैं। 1988-89 **और** 1989-90 (दिसम्बर 1989 तक) के दौरान उत्तर प्रदेश में एकीकृत ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम के ग्रंतर्गत खेलिहर मजदूरों के कमणः 1.75 लाख और 0.97 लाख परिवारों को सहायता प्रदान की गई है। जवाहर रोजगार योजना के म्रंतर्गत उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य को बर्ष 1989-90 के लिए 51706.13 लाख रुपए की राशि ग्रावंटित की गई है ग्रौर फरवरी, 1990 तक इस कॉर्यक्रम के ग्रंतर्गत 1266.28 लाख श्रम दिव के रोजगार का सूजन किया गया है।

(ग) उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने 18 जनवरी, 1988 से भूमिहोन खेतिहर मजदूरों के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार की ग्रुप बीमा योजना को लागू किया है । 30 सितम्बर, 1989 तक, इस योजना के ग्राधीन 1,333 परिवारों को लाभ प्राप्त हए थे । Involvement of State Governments for raising funds for construction of new railway lines

1385. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of RAIL-WAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a policy decision to involve State Governments in raising funds for the construction of new rail lines;

(b) if so, whether Government have asked all' State Governments to share the construction of new rail lines; and

(c) whether any State Government has agreed to the said proposal- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERN ANDES): (a) No such general decision has been taken. However, in case of Mankhurd-Belapur project in Maharashtra, the State Govt, is contributing through CIDCo funds to the extent of 67 per cent. In case of new Konkan Railway project the four concerned State Govts, are also likely to contribute funds.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Defining the term of weaker sections of the society

1386. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: WiU the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently directed the Central Government to define the termk 'weaker sections of the society' and also that appropriate guidelines be laid down;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have since taken any steps so far to define the said term and to lay down appropriate guidelines; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVE-LOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MA. RAN): (a) to (c) The judgement of the Supreme Court delivered on 31-1-90 relates to the definition of term 'weaker sections of the society' in the context of exemptions given under Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 by the Maharashtra Government. The judgement contains some directions to the Government of India and the Government of Maharashtra. The matter is under examination and necessary action is being taken by the Government.

Review of National housing policy

1387. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose	to
review the existing national policy	on
housing and also propose to bring an	ac-
tion Plan to tackle the problem; and	

(b) to what extent the poor people are lik: ly to be benefited by the new policy on housing?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVE-LOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MA-RAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is keen to introduce specific schemes for increasing the access of the Urban and rural poor to shel ter and basic services. It is already operating a number of scheces in the Central Plan for the rural poor belongings to Scheduled Caste|Scheduled Tribes, pavement dwellers in metropolitan cities, and poor households in large cities.

JncliLsion of chillies for fixing support price

1388. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAIJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any demand from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to include Chillies for fixing minimum support price; and (b) if so, what steps are being taken to implement the same?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICUL-TURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Proposals for new railway lines for Andhra Pradesh

1389. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) what are the proposals of new railway lines pending from Andhra Pradesh for consideration; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES); (a) and (b) A new BG line between Telapur and Patencheru (9. 35 km) which had been approved in 1981-82 at a cost of Rs. 5. 15 crores is pending due to acute constraint of resources.

Procurement of paddy

1390. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state-.

(a) whether any representations have recently been received from Coastal Andhra region regarding the fall of paddy prices well below the minimum

 support prices in Andhra Pradesh and to open purchase centres by Food Corporation of India to procure paddy; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps are being taken to redress the same?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In consultation with State Government, Food Corporation of India has opened 44 purchase centres. If required, more purchase centres will be opened in the State.