

(b) the number of houses and flats constructed by these societies till December 31st, 1986; and

(c) the total amount of money spent on construction these houses and flats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Profit/loss account of DMS

1198, DR. MOHD. HASHIM KID-WAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of profit/loss account of the Delhi Milk Scheme during the last two years; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to minimise the losses, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) During the last two years Delhi Milk Scheme has incurred the following loss

1984-85	Rs. 9.50 crores
1985-86	Rs. 7.66 crores.

The losses were mainly because of the lower sale-price of the milk than the cost of production.

(b) Several steps/measures have been taken to minimise the losses. The capacity utilisation of the plant has been improved. Constant preventive maintenance and regular monitoring of machines is being done to ensure maximum capacity utilisation. The daily average production/sale of milk also has been increased. Constant monitoring is being done to reduce the raw material cost, FAT/SNF losses, bottle breakages, careful consumption of consumable items etc. Industrial relations have also been improved. Steps have also been taken to modernise/renovate plant and equipment.

Proposed ore dressing plant at Nagpur

1199. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVIND-RAO PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state: "

(a) whether Government propose to set up world's biggest ore dressing plant in Nagpur; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (b) A 'Modern' Mineral Processing Laboratory and Pilot Plant is being set up at Nagpur for beneficiation of various ores and minerals except coal, asbestos and radio-active minerals. The facilities will include a comprehensive mineral processing laboratory, an analytical laboratory, a mineralogical laboratory, an ore dressing plant of capacity from about 250 kgs. to 2 tonnes per hour and a computerised data processing section.

Completion of the operation Flood-II

1200 SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Operation Flood Phase-II has been completed successfully;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and corrective steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) what are the reasons for launching operation Flood Phase-III?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) The table below indicates the targets and achievements of selected components un-

de Operation Flood II during the Sixth Five Year Plan

i.e. 1980-81 to 1984-85:—

Particulars	By the end of 1984-85 (Cumulative)	
	Targets	Achievements
1. Rural dairy processing capacity (LLPD)	76 00	87.75
2. Urban Milk Marketing (LLPD)	43 00	50.11
3. No. of Dairy Cooperative Societies.	29007	34523
4. No. of farmer members (lakhs)	34 80	36 31
5. Average Milk Procurement (LLPD)	55.30	57.84

(i) Operation Flood III would endeavour to build further on the moundation laid under Operation Flood II in the country, during the Seventh Five Year Plan,

Price of potato

1201. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK; Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a), whether it is a fact that prices of potato has fallen considerably even below' the cost production; 'and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to support the agriculturists in realising reasonable price for their produce through the market intervention scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) In order to ensure that market prices of potato do not fall to unremunerative levels, Government have evolved a market intervention scheme for the crop. Market intervention operations through designated State agencies are authorised by Government, on consideration of proposals received from a State Government which either anticipates that market prices' will fall to unremunerative level or finds that this has actually taken place. The level of intervention price is fixed by Government 'in consultation with the concerned State Government.

For the current (1986-87) crop of potato, Government have agreed in principle to a market intervention scheme in U.P at the instance of the State Government. Intervention prices have been

fixed at Rs. 65 per quintal for the White variety and Rs. 55 per quintal for the Red variety. If market prices of the specified quality of these varieties have not fallen below the intervention price levels in that State, No such proposal has been received from any other State Government.

Procurement price of sugarcane

1202. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased' to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a delegation of near five hundred farmers from various parts of the county met the Prime Minister during the third week of December, 1986 to seek an increase in the procurement price of sugarcane and payment of arrears to farmers to the tune of Rs. 26 crores; and

(b) if so, whether Government have since considered their demands and decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir. About 400 persons from various States met the Prime Minister on 16-12-1986 and