

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):** (a) 65.82 lakh bales.

(b) The target of production for 1984-85 is 85-86 lakh bales. The final estimates of production are not yet available.

(c) The demand for cotton has been met in full from indigenous production of cotton during 1982-83 and 1983-84 and there has been no import.

(d) Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored intensive Cotton Development Programme to increase production of cotton in the country.

#### **Drinking Water for Delhi**

**28. SHRI SHAMIM AHMED SIDDIQI:** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that residents of Delhi have to face a lot of difficulties as a result of shortage of drinking water during summer every year; and

(b) if so, what remedial steps are being taken to remove such difficulty during the coming summer?

**THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GAFOOR):**

(a) Water supply in Delhi is generally satisfactory. However, during summer complaints of low pressure of water or shorter duration of supply are received from some areas situated at higher elevation or at the tail end of the distribution system.

(b) The following remedial steps are being taken:—

(i) augmentation of water supply by completing the 100 MGD Shahdara Water Treatment Plant and construction of additional Ranney Wells;

(ii) strengthening of trunk transmission system;

(iii) replacement of old corroded distribution system by new mains;

(iv) plugging of leakages in distribution system;

(v) interconnection of water Mains for improving pressure.

#### **Amount spent by State Governments on NREP**

**29. SHRI S. W. DHABE:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who have been brought above the poverty line during the last three years in the rural areas;

(b) the amount of money spent on the National Rural Employment Programme; and

(c) the amounts spent by State Governments during the period out of the grants given by the Central Government?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR):** (a) During the last three years 98.53 lakh families have been assisted under the Integrated Rural Development Programme. Similarly under National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) 1008.48 million mandays of employment has been generated. As regards the question of number of families who have crossed the poverty line, it is a gradual and continuous process and it will take some time before the impact of these programmes on beneficiary families can be assessed.

(b) and (c) Amount spent under National Rural Employment Programme during the last three years comes to Rs. 1104.62 crores out of which Rs. 552.79 crores was given by the Centre as grant.

#### **Housing Boards for Rural Population**

**30. SHRI S. W. DHABE:** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up housing boards for rural population on the pattern of boards for urban population on the pattern of boards for Urban population; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GAFOOR):

(a) and (b) 'Housing' being a State subject, State Governments are free to set up Housing Boards as per their requirements.

#### Ban on Cow Slaughter

31. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to put total ban on cow slaughter in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government have recently received memoranda and representations in regard to putting a ban on cow slaughter;

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(f) what is the total number of cows which were legally and illegally slaughtered in different parts of the country during the last three years; and

(g) what concrete steps Government propose to take to ban the illegal slaughter of good quality cows?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c) The subject of preservation of cattle is a matter on which the State Legislatures have the exclusive powers to legislate. Accordingly, various State Governments have suitable laws relating to prevention of slaughter of cow and its progeny. All States and Union Territories excluding Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram have laws relating to prevention of slaughter of cow and its progeny.

(d) and (e) Representations have been received by the Government suggestions, *inter alia* enactment of a Central Legislation to impose total ban on slaughter of cow and its progeny.

(f) According to information received from different States and Union Territories, the number of cow slaughtered during 1981, 1982 and 1983 are as under:—

Year	No. of cows slaughtered
1981	55,807
1982	94,572
1983	70,501*

\*Excludes information relating to Manipur and Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

(g) Chief Ministers of the States have been requested to ensure *inter-alia*, that the ban on cow slaughter is not allowed to be circumvented by devious methods.

#### ग्रामीण लोगों को खाली समय में रोजगार उपलब्ध कराना

32. श्री चिमन भाई मेहता : क्या कृषि और ग्रामीण विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गांवों में खेती का धंधा पूरे बारह महीने नहीं होता ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि किसानों और कृषि मजदूरों को पूरे बारह महीने काम नहीं मिलता और वर्ष के कुछ महीने में बेरोजगार हो जाते हैं ;

(ग) यदि हां तो गांव में किसानों और कृषि मजदूरों को उनके खाली समय में रोजगार देने तथा उनकी आमदनी बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार ने क्या चरणबद्ध कार्यक्रम तयार किये हैं ;

(घ) क्या सरकार गांवों में बेरोजगारी दूर करने के उद्देश्य से ग्रामोद्योगों