

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b) Land acquisition laws aim at securing land for projects of public importance and do not seek to change the existing ownership pattern. This is sought to be done through land ceiling legislations which limit the size of agricultural holdings and vest the surplus in the State for redistribution among the landless. Ceiling legislations exist in practically all States and are under implementation.

#### Area of surplus land

236. SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH SURJEET: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have made an estimate of the total area of surplus land available in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b) According to information furnished by State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, the area likely to be surplus to the ceiling is estimated at 55.46 lakh acres. This however, is a very tentative estimate and the actual extent of surplus can be definitely known after the disposal of cases under different ceiling laws. The State and Union Territory-wise break-up of this estimate is given in the appended statement. The estimate does not include Government land.

#### Statement

States/Union Territories	Area estimated to be surplus
Andhra Pradesh	10,00,000
Assam . . . . .	4,00,000
Bihar . . . . .	3,00,000

States/Union Territories	Area estimated to be surplus
Gujarat . . . . .	10,12,923
Haryana . . . . .	29,304
Himachal Pradesh . . . . .	1,52,420
Jammu & Kashmir . . . . .	—
Karnataka . . . . .	4,00,000
Kerala . . . . .	1,50,000
Madhya Pradesh . . . . .	50,000
Maharashtra . . . . .	3,70,650
Manipur . . . . .	1,083
Orissa . . . . .	2,00,000
Punjab . . . . .	87,000
Rajasthan . . . . .	7,94,000
Tamil Nadu . . . . .	90,870
Tripura . . . . .	4,981
Uttar Pradesh . . . . .	2,50,000
West Bengal . . . . .	2,00,000
Dadra & N. Havali . . . . .	9,350
Delhi . . . . .	1,500
Pondicherry . . . . .	3,012
TOTAL . . . . .	55,48,133

#### Decontrol of sugar

237. SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to decontrol sugar; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ensure that the price of sugar does not increase as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) Government's sugar policy is reviewed from time to time and various policy options including decontrol are always kept in view.