

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as possible.

Procurement of foodgrains

*37. SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum of foodgrains procured during the year 1976-77;

(b) whether the foodgrains procured are sufficient to meet the requirements in the country; and

(c) if not, what steps Government propose to take to meet the shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRAKASH SINGH BADAL): (a) A total quantity of 10.8 million tonnes of foodgrains has been procured in the Rabi and Kharif marketing seasons of 1976-77.

(b) Procurement of foodgrains by the Government is meant primarily for meeting the requirements of the Public Distribution System and building up of buffer stock. Government have at present stocks of more than 18 million tonnes of foodgrains which are considered as sufficient to meet the requirements of Public Distribution System.

(c) Does not arise.

Facilities in colonies in Delhi

*38. SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority has provided facilities

like water supply, sewerage and electric connections in all the colonies where plots of land were allotted during first half of 1976;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when these facilities are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) to (c) *Resettlement Colonies*—Basic facilities like water supply, community latrines, drainage, roads, paths and street lighting have been provided.

Low Income Group/Middle Income Group Plots—The allottees are required to complete the construction of the houses within two years. The facilities like water, sewerage and electric connections are in progress and are expected to be completed by the time the buildings are completed by the allottees.

Fixation of remunerative prices of foodgrains and cash crops

*39. SHRI DEORAO PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have laid down any criteria for ensuring remunerative prices to the growers of foodgrains and major cash crops; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRAKASH SINGH BADAL): (a) and (b) For ensuring remunerative prices to the growers of foodgrains and major cash crops, the Government fixes the procurement prices keeping in view the recommendation of the Agricultural Prices Commission, the cost of production, the likely

output, the prevailing price level as well as the need for making the commodities available to the consumer at a reasonable level and safeguarding the interests of the vulnerable sections of the population.

Exemption from payment of registration fee in Delhi

*40. SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that purchasers of D.D.A. flats/plots of land in Janta and Low Income Groups are exempted from payment of registration fee in Delhi;

(b) whether the Delhi Municipal Corporation and the Delhi Development Authority have recommended to Government to exempt buyers of Middle Income Group flats also from payment of registration fee; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) No exemption from payment of registration fee under the Indian Registration Act, 1908 has been granted.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The question does not arise.

Barak Dam Project

*41. SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have completed the survey of the Barak Dam Project;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, by when the survey is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PARKASH SINGH BADAL): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Earlier at the request of the Assam Government the investigations including topographical and other surveys had been completed for a dam across Barak river at Bhubandar for a limited purpose of affording flood protection to Silchar town and project report prepared. Since this proposal submerged rich agricultural lands and potential industrial area of Jiribhum valley in Manipur, the State Government did not agree to the dam at this site. It was accordingly decided to investigate alternate sites for a dam with larger potential and benefits in the upper reaches of Barak River. The State Governments of Assam and Manipur agreed in December 1975, to the carrying out of investigations by the Central Water Commission on an alternative site at Tipaimukh. At this site investigations are contemplated for a dam of about 150 m. height with a storage capacity of about 0.73 million hectare metres and a hydro-station at the foot of the dam with an installed capacity of about 600 M.W. The project is expected to also provide substantial irrigation and flood control benefits, details of which are yet to be assessed. Funds have been arranged recently and the work of investigation of Tipaimukh dam project is being taken up shortly which is expected to be completed in a period of about 3 years.

Award of scholarships to talented science students

*42. SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the N.C.E.R.T. awards scholarships at the national level to talented science students;