

crore acres of fertile land which is lying unused in the country ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDES PATEL) : According to the All India Report on Agricultural Censuses, 1970-71, around 12 million hectares (roughly 30 million acres) of land comprised of cultivable waste land, fallow land other than current fallows and other uncultivated lands excluding fallow lands. It will thus be seen that much of this land does not lend itself to easy cultivation without considerable investment. Besides, a high percentage of it will be comprised in individual holdings of the permissible sizes. The necessary decisions on investment and cultivation, therefore, are taken by individual holders. Such of these lands as may be found above the ceiling are to be taken* over on implementation of the ceiling laws and to be distributed among landless agricultural labourers and other eligible categories of persons for purposes of cultivation.

Change in the Calcutta University Senate

470. SHRI KALYAN ROY :
SHRI BHOLA PRASAD .

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Calcutta University Senate in their resolution have requested the Central Government to intervene in the recent changes in the Senate membership of the University including dropping of eminent scholars like Dr. Suniti Chatterjee as reported in the 'Statesman' of 25th December, 1975 under the caption "Changes in Calcutta University Senate Membership Resented"; and

(b) if so what action the Central Government have taken or propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Supply of uniforms to workers in Hindustan Housing Factory, New Delhi

471. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers of the Hindustan Housing Factory, New Delhi who are given uniforms;

(b) whether it is a fact that the management of Hindustan Housing Factory do not invite quotations from the open market for the supply of ready-made uniforms which are comparatively cheaper, if so, what, are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to issue instructions to effect as much economy as possible in the purchase of these uniforms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) 1254.

(b) The Hindustan Housing Factory do not purchase ready made uniforms. They purchase cloth and get the uniforms stitched according to individual sizes. For this purpose, they invite quotations for bulk purchase of cloth of approved quality and for stitching the uniforms separately. The reasons for the practice of purchasing cloth and then getting the uniforms stitched are as follows :

(i) The quality of stitching of the ready-made uniforms is not upto the mark;

(ii) The ready-made uniform does not properly fit the worker in size and needs refitting after issue of the uniform, causing expense and creating complications for getting them refitted according to the individual's size.

(iii) The workers are satisfied to have the uniforms stitched according to their sizes, as against ready-made uniforms, which ultimately helps the Organisation to maintain industrial harmony.

(iv) This avoids a lot of complaints, correspondent and grievances from workers after the issue of uniforms.

(c) In view of the position explained in reply to part (b) above. Government do not consider it necessary to issue any instructions to the Factory.