

WATER SUPPLY PLANT IN DELHI

*471. SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) when the opening ceremony of 40 M.G.D. water supply plant in Delhi was performed;

(b) whether the raw water pumps had not yet been installed;

(c) when the order for supply of these pumps was placed; and

(d) whether Government have held any enquiry into the mis-management of water supply in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR) : (a) The 40 M.G.D. water treatment plant at Wazirabad was inaugurated on the 4th April, 1966.

(b) Yes, Sir, However, as an interim arrangement a pumping station of a lower capacity had been set up.

(c) The order for the supply of these pumps was placed in February, 1965.

(d) There was some delay in placing orders for the pumps.

TAKING OVER OF IRWIN HOSPITAL BY THE CENTRE

*474. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has decided to take over the Irwin Hospital from the Delhi Administration and Delhi Municipal Corporation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Delhi Municipal Corporation has protested against this decision; and

(d) what is the final decision of Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR) : (a) to (d) No, Sir, However,

a proposal is under consideration to bring the Maulana Azad Medical College, Irwin Hospital and the G. B. Pant Hospital under a Board of Administration under the Chairmanship of the Chief Commissioner with a view to improving the administration and consequently the standard of service and medical education.

LAND REFORMS

*475. SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reviewed the progress of land reforms in the States,

(b) if so, what are the results of the review; and

(c) what steps have been taken to speed up the implementation of land reform legislations in the States ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI ASOKA MEHTA) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) *Abolition of Intermediaries*.—The programme for the abolition of intermediaries has been carried out practically all over the country. About 20 million tenants of former intermediaries came into direct relationship with the State and became owners of their holdings. State Governments are now engaged in determination and payment of compensation. Out of an estimated amount of Rs. 600 crores (including rehabilitation grant and interest) more than half has already been paid.

Tenancy Reforms.—To deal with the problem of tenants-at-will in the ryotwari areas and of sub-tenants in the zamindari areas, a good deal of legislation has been enacted. Provisions for security of tenure, for bringing them into direct relation with the State and converting them into owners have been made in several States. As a result, about 3 million tenants and share-

croppers have acquired ownership of more than 7 million acres :

	No. of tenants (in '000s)	Area in respect of which ownership conferred (in '000 acres)
Gujarat	462	1,408
Madhya Pradesh	358	..
Maharashtra	614	1,674
Punjab	20	137 (Std. acres)
Uttar Pradesh	1,500	2,000
West Bengal	800
Telangana (Andhra Pradesh)	33	202
Delhi	29	39
Himachal Pradesh	24	28
Tripura	12	14

Provisions for regulation of rent have been adopted in all States. In Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Mysore, Orissa, Rajasthan and the Union Territories, the maximum rent has been fixed at a quarter or less of the produce. In some States, however, rents still vary between one-third to one-half of the gross produce.

Ceiling on Holdings.—Laws imposing ceiling on agricultural holdings have been enacted in all the States except the former Punjab area where, however, the State Government had the power to settle tenants on land in excess of the permissible limit. According to available reports, over 2 million acres of surplus areas in excess of the ceiling limits have been declared or taken possession of by the Government in the following States :—

	Surplus area (in '000 acres)
Assam	34.0
Jammu and Kashmir	450.0
Maharashtra	162.5
Madhya Pradesh	67.1
Madras	7.0
Punjab	368.5*
West Bengal	766.6
Uttar Pradesh	222.7

*Area in standard acres.

More lands will become available as implementation proceeds. The surplus lands are being distributed to tenants, uneconomic holders and landless agriculturists.

(c) With a view to expediting implementation of the programmes, the National Development Council had constituted a committee in 1963 which is currently engaged, in consultation with the State Governments, in examining the difficulties in implementation where the programme has lagged behind.

उपभोक्ता की रक्षा

*482 श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरड़िया : क्या वित्त मंत्री दिनांक 9 जून, 1966 के "टाइम्स आफ इंडिया" के मुख-पृष्ठ पर प्रकाशित अपने भाषण की रिपोर्ट को देखेंगे, जिसमें उन्होंने "उपभोक्ता पर मुनाफाखोरो द्वारा शोषित होने का दावा लगाया" बताया गया है, और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मुनाफाखोरो के शोषण से बचने के लिये उपभोक्ता को क्या-क्या उपाय करने चाहियें; और

(ख) ऐसे शोषण को रोकने के लिये सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है ?

†[PROTECTION OF THE CONSUMER

*482. SHRI V. M. CHORDIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the report of his speech published on the front page of the 'Times of India' dated 9th June, 1966, in which he is reported to have "blamed the consumer for allowing himself to be exploited by profiteers" and state :

(a) what steps the consumer should take in order to save himself from exploitation by profiteers; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to stop such exploitation ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री शचीन्द्र चौधरी) : (क) यह कहना सही नहीं है कि मंत्री ने उपभोक्ता को दोषी ठहराया, लेकिन उन्होंने उपभोक्ता

†[] English translation.