(b) whether Government is also agreeing to the idea of returning of land by the State Governments to the farmers, in case the land acquired by the State Governments many years back for public interest has not been utilized and the farmers have not been given any compensation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) A draft Land Acquisition and Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2011 has been prepared and placed in the public domain on July 29th, 2011 for wide public consultations.

(b) to (d) The draft LA and R & R Bill, 2011 provides for return of land to the farmers, if the land is not utilized within 5 years for the purpose it was acquired.

Plugging the loopholes in MGNREGS

1700. SHRI A.A. JINNAH:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has signed a MoU with any agency to plug the loopholes in the misuse of funds during implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and names of the States where scheme is likely to be started as a pilot project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Council on land reforms

†1701. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a council on land reforms was constituted by the Prime Minister in January, 2008; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in HIndi.