

(c) what is the basis for giving such loan and subsidy under the Scheme; and

(d) the present position of the availability of funds?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) In 1976-77, a sum of Rs. 7.00 lakhs as loan and Rs. 8.00 lakhs as subsidy was sanctioned to the Government of Assam for the implementation of the Subsidised Housing Scheme for Plantation Workers. In addition, the Government of Assam had at their disposal, the unspent balance of Rs. 9.42 lakhs as loan and Rs. 16.02 lakhs as subsidy out of funds released in earlier years. As regards 1977-78, the State Governments have been requested to indicate their requirements of funds. Allocation of funds will depend on the programme of works and the requirements of funds during this years by the State Governments.

(b) A sum of Rs. 22.78 lakhs as loan and Rs. 25.02 lakhs as subsidy have been utilised by the Government of Assam during the year 1976-77. Upto 31-3-1977, the cumulative total of amounts utilised by the Government of Assam was Rs. 136.59 lakhs as loan and Rs. 77.17 lakhs as subsidy and sanction was given by the Government of Assam for construction of 8608 houses. Funds under the Scheme are given to the Plantation owners through the State Governments for construction of houses, and not directly to the Plantation Workers.

(c) To help the planters to meet their statutory obligation under the Plantations Labour Act, 1951, to provide rent-free accommodation to resident plantation workers, funds made available to them for construction of houses for their eligible workers to the extent of 87½ per cent (50 per cent as loan and 37½ per cent as subsidy) of the actual or audited cost of construction or the prescribed ceiling cost, whichever is the least.

(d) In the budget for 1977-78, a provision of Rs. 2.10 crores has been made for the implementation of this Scheme in the whole country.

#### Approach to World Bank for Financing the Dastur Plan

3022. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to approach the World Bank for financing 'the Dastur Plan' for generation of power and control of floods in the country;

(b) if so, the steps so far taken by Governments; and

(c) the reaction of the World Bank thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Dastur Plan is conceptual. There is no proposal for seeking assistance from the World Bank for the schemes envisaged in the Dastur Plan.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### Reclamation of Alkaline Soil

3023. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) break-up of area of alkaline soil existing in different States and whether there has been an increase in its total area and if so, reasons thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to draw a scheme to reclaim such land and if so, its salient features; and

(c) whether Government are aware that excessive use of chemical fertilisers in agriculture cause a gradual rise in making the soil alkaline and steps proposed to check it?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) No detailed survey has been carried out, but it is

estimated that the total area under alkali soils in the country is approximately 2.5 million ha. Out of this, Uttar Pradesh alone has nearly 0.9 million ha.; Punjab has 0.45 million ha.; and Haryana 0.35 million ha.; and the remaining 0.8 million hectares is distributed in other States.

No evidence is available to indicate that there has been any further increase in the areas under alkali soils.

(b) Yes, Sir.

The Department of Agriculture has taken up a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Pilot basis for reclamation of alkali soils during the current Five Year Plan. Under this, an allocation of Rs. 7½ crores has been made for reclaiming 64,000 ha. of alkali soils in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana. The programme has been undertaken in those areas where sufficient water of good quality is available on assured basis.

The Scheme provides for 50 per cent subsidy towards the cost of amendment material to small and marginal farmers having land holdings upto 3 ha. and 25 per cent subsidy to others. In addition, the State Governments are expected to provide 25 per cent subsidy from their own resources to both the above categories of farmers. The remaining cost of reclamation work will be borne by the farmers themselves.

(c) No Sir. On the other hand, use of Chemical Fertilisers such as Ammonium Sulphate has been found useful in reclamation of alkali soil.

#### DELHI UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION RESULTS IN NEWSPAPERS

3024. SHRI SHANKERSINHJI VAGHELA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the Delhi University results of various examina-

tions do not appear in all the leading newspapers; and

(b) if so, the facts thereabout and the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that all the results of Delhi University appear in all the leading newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER):

(a) and (b). According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, copies of result notifications of the University are sent regularly to all the leading newspapers in Delhi for favour of publication. The newspapers are further requested that if for any reasons it is not possible for them to publish the results, they may, at least, give in the news column, the names of the examinations for which the results have been declared, so that the students may contact the institutions concerned to whom the result notifications are also sent for display at the notice board. Copies of the result notifications are also sent to Special Information Bureau, Samachar, Yuv Vani and Youth Bulletin for giving wide publicity.

#### Profit and loss of the Gujranwala House Building Cooperative Society, Delhi

3025. SHRI RAM KANWAR BERWA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total profit and loss of the Gujranwala House Building Cooperative Society, Delhi as revealed by Audit Reports from 1967-68 to-date;

(b) the total amount credited to the Development Fund of the Society;

(c) whether Government are aware that this amount is being utilized by the Society for purpose other than Development of land;