

the weaker section of the society. In addition, the State Governments have used 620.75 acres of the land acquired under the Act for construction of houses during the last three years.

The Act has helped in arresting speculation by preventing people from purchasing land in excess of the ceiling limit from 1976 onwards.

(b) Certain proposals for amending the Act are under consideration to make it more purposeful.

#### Import of Sugar

1024. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOJ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have imported sugar during the current year to meet the requirement in the country;

(b) if so, the quantity of sugar imported (with value in foreign exchange);

(c) the sugar production in the country during 1983-84 season and the estimated production during the current season;

(d) the comparative rise/fall in the buffer stock of sugar during the last two years (years-wise) stating the extent to which the buffer stock is likely to increase with the imported sugar; and

(e) the likely impact on the prices of levy and free sale sugar as a result of imports ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). As regards the sugar imports during the current financial year 1985-86, it has been decided for the present to import about 10 lakh tonnes of sugar upto September, 1985. Out of this, the quantity arrived upto 22-7-1985 is about 2.47 lakh tonnes. For the imports so far contracted by the State Trading Corporation of India the approximate average C and F price works out to about Rs. 2000 per tonne.

(c) The sugar production in the country during 1983-84 season was 59.16 lakh tonnes whereas the estimated sugar production during the current 1984-85 season is about 61 lakh tonnes.

(d) and (e). The carryover of sugar stocks with the factories in the country during the last 2 sugar seasons *i.e.* as on 1-10-1983 and 1-10-1984 was about 45.87 lakh tonnes and 22.80 lakh tonnes respectively. Taking into account the current imports of sugar and the increase in the level of consumption to about 82 lakh tonnes in 1984-85 season from 64.79 lakh tonnes in 1982-83 season and 75.70 lakh tonnes in 1983-84 season, the carryover stocks of sugar as on 1-10-1985 are estimated at about 14 lakh tonnes. This would ensure adequate availability of levy sugar as well as freesale sugar for internal consumption and would also be helpful in keeping the prices of sugar in open market at reasonable levels. Levy sugar is already being distributed at a uniform price of Rs. 4.40 per kg.

#### Shortage of Drinking Water in U.P.

1025. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOJ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute shortage of drinking water and unprecedented drought conditions prevailing in U.P.'s Bundelkhand region virtually driving the inhabitants to starvation; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to give relief to the affected region and to meet the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) and (b). On the basis of Memorandum for drought relief submitted by the State Government to the Government of India (Ministry of Agriculture), the Government of India approved ceilings of expenditure amounting to Rs. 1.70 crores under non-plan and Rs. 7.18 crores under Plan for providing drinking water in drought affected areas (both urban and rural) of U.P. during 85-86. The amount includes Rs. 3.88 crores for construction of handpumps in rural areas in 43 districts including 5 districts in Bundelkhand region.

#### Lack of Basic Amenities in Resettlement Colonies, Delhi

1026. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOJ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the Press report appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 19 June, 1985 regarding living conditions and lack of basic amenities in the resettlement colonies around Delhi; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to improve the situation and to ensure effective coordination among various agencies for the proper development of these colonies?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOR) :

(a) Yea, Sir.

(b) Government has already sanctioned a scheme for provision of additional facilities in the resettlement colonies, like laying of sewer and water lines for grant of individual water and sewer connections, improved roads and drains and overhead and under ground tanks. The scheme is under execution with the Delhi Development Authority.

2. The Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking has reported that the position of distribution system, including street lighting in these colonies is by and large satisfactory. The power break-downs which occurred in Khichripur resettlement colony due to damage to overhead lines in the heavy storm recently has been attended to and two street lighting poles which were broken were replaced by new ones.

3. Schooling facilities are also available in these colonies. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi is running primary school in every resettlement colony or in its neighbourhood and no child is refused admission in the school.

4. Besides, the Directorate of Education is running 72 schools in these colonies.

5. The Slum and JJ Department of DDA being in overall charge of these colonies coordinates between various agencies regarding these colonies. This Ministry has also set up a coordination Committee consisting of Secretary (L and B), Delhi Administration, Vice Chairman, DDA and Commissioner, M.C.D. to bring about proper coordination and remove bottlenecks with a view to ensuring optimum development by various agencies.

Functioning of TV Transmitter at Koraput

1027. SHRI. JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention is invited to the Hindustan Times dated 24-6-1985 that the signals of television transmitter installed recently at Koraput are not received even at a distance of 12 KM and the sole purpose of providing educated and entertainment to the most backward class of people is defeated; and

(b) whether there have been made any additional demands from the State of Orissa for providing at least seven transmitters considering the backwardness of the State and its high percentage of illiteracy.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) :

(a) The Government have seen the press report to this effect.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Payment of Wages to the Workers on the Line of Food for Work Programme

1028. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of the massive food-grains stocks with Government, Government are considering to use foodgrains for payment of wages to workers in developmental projects on the lines of 'Food for Work Programme;

(b) if so, whether the States have favourably responded to the Government's proposal;

(c) whether the National Rural Employment Programme and the Rural Landless Employments Guarantee Programme will be further boosted due to the massive food-grains stocks;

(d) if so, to what extent these programmes have been further strengthened;

(e) the allotment made to each State for development of above mentioned programmes; and