

SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) to (c). The National Seeds Programme envisages substantial additional production of foundation and certified seeds and this would involve augmentation of storage facilities. In addition, the National Seed Corporation would also operate a reserve stock scheme. According to this scheme, a portion of the estimated requirement of foundation and certified seeds would be held in reserve to meet shortfalls in supply and also to meet the demand of areas affected by natural calamities. Under the National Seeds Programme, a provision of Rs. 258.30 lakhs has been made for the Reserve Stock Scheme. The National Seeds Programme is being financed by a loan from the World Bank.

Non-disposal of sugarcane by farmers

4645. **SHRI SHYAM SUNDER GUPTA**: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers have been facing great difficulties in Northern States of India due to the fall in the price of sugarcane;

(b) whether it is also a fact that farmers could not dispose of their sugarcane even after the end of June, 1978; and

(c) whether Government propose to make good the loss suffered by such sugarcane growers; and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) So far as sugar factories in the organized sector are concerned, the prices for sugarcane paid by them to the growers this year are at about the same level as last year. However, due to the large production of sugarcane this year, the khandisari and gur sector

have not been able to absorb the cane in the same proportion and hence the prices paid to growers by them are reported to be lower.

(b) The sugar factories have absorbed nearly 40 per cent of the cane grown as against the usual 33 per cent. However, the gur and khandisari units, being in the unorganized sector, are not under the control of the Government and they have not been able to rise upto the increased supply of sugarcane. Hence some cane growers have been affected in regard to supply of their cane to the sectors.

(c) There is no scheme either with the Central Government or the State Governments to pay compensation to those sugarcane growers whose sugarcane crop remains undisposed of. The Government cannot take direct responsibility of disposal of any commodity which is perishable and also consumed in high proportion by unorganised sectors, as Gur and Khandisari in the case of sugarcane.

N.O.I.D.A. Housing Schemes

4646. **SHRI V. G. HANDE**: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount earmarked by the Housing and Urban Development Corporation for financing the LIG/MIG Housing Scheme of New Okhla Industrial Development Agency, Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that the rules governing the N.O.I.D.A. Housing Scheme have not been approved by the Central Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of applications received under each category and the estimated number of houses proposed to be constructed under this scheme; and