

sugar factories under production in the State, the following draft amendment was suggested for adoption in their By-laws :—

“No employee of the factory shall canvass or otherwise interfere or use his influence in connection with, or stand for, or participate in, an election to Parliament or State Legislature or local authority. He can, however, cast his vote as an ordinary voter.”

(b) The constitutional propriety or otherwise involved in the aforesaid suggestion will be examined.

#### Restrictions on sale of Land in big Cities

2818. SHRI B. V. NAIK : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposals for freezing trade in urban land for a specific number of years in big metropolitan cities like Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Madras, Hyderabad and Bangalore in order to curb speculative trade in lands through the tool of black money ; and

(b) if not, how the price of urban land is proposed to be controlled, for the benefit of middle and lower income group people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA) : (a) and (b). There is no such proposal with the Government of India but some State Governments have passed legislation prohibiting transactions in urban land for short periods so that the object behind imposition of ceiling on urban property is not defeated. However, a scheme for providing assistance to the State Governments for large-scale acquisition and development of land for housing, called the ‘Land Acquisition and Development Scheme’ was introduced in 1959. The scheme aims at stabilising land prices and arresting increase in rents by providing house-sites to prospective house-builders in the lower and middle income groups at reasonable cost. The scheme is, at present, included in the State Sector and Central assistance for its implementation is included in the block Central assistance allocated to

State Governments from year to year by the Ministry of Finance. This scheme is also financed in some States from the Life Insurance Corporation loans allocated by this Ministry. The State Governments are free to determine the programmes to be undertaken under the Scheme and the funds to be allocated therefor according to their requirements and priorities.

The Seminar on the Evolution of a National Policy on Housing and Urban Development, convened in April, 1972, recommended *inter alia* that all urbanisable lands should be socialised with a view to check speculative gain in urban lands and for mopping up unearned increments in their prices, for the benefit of the community as a whole. The recent Conference of State Ministers of Housing, Town Planning and U. D. held in July, 1972 has also endorsed this recommendation. The exact scope of such a policy for socialisation of urbanisable land and the ways and means to achieve it have yet to be determined.

#### Compilation of 25 years’ Bengali Poetry

2819. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Book Trust has entrusted Shri Subhas Mukherjee to make selection and compilation of 25 years’ Bengali poetry, and if so, whether it will be translated into 16 Indian languages ;

(b) the names of the poets whose poems have been selected ;

(c) whether poems of many eminent poets like Sudhindranath, Dutta, Jibanananda Das, Amiya Chakravarty, Samar Sen, Buddhadev Bose and others have been excluded and the reasons therefor ; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to make the publication a real representation of 25 years creative poems ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY) : (a). The National Book Trust has been entrusted with the publication of an Anthology of Indian Poetry Since Independence, the compilation of the Bengali