

Rise in Level of Sub-Soil Water in Delhi

*551. { Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rise in the level of sub-soil water in Delhi has become a potential danger to some of the existing buildings in New Delhi; and

(b) If so, details of steps taken to deal with the situation and the results achieved?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) No, Sir. Some dampness in foundations and lower portion of super-structures in some buildings in New Delhi has, however, been observed.

(b) On the recommendations of an Expert Committee appointed for the purpose, steps have been taken for (i) sinking of about 300 tube wells in the affected areas for pumping out sub-soil water, (ii) construction of special underground drainage system for the Central Vista lawns, (iii) re-grading of lawns and open spaces for improving surface drainage, (iv) economy in the use of unfiltered water for irrigation, (v) improvements in the general surface drainage system by the local bodies, etc. It is too early yet to assess the results achieved; the general indications, however, are satisfactory.

Supply of Manganese Ore under Barter Agreement

*552. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the negotiations of the prices of the manganese ore to be supplied to USA under the Barter Agreement have been completed; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not in the business interest of the Corporation to disclose the prices.

Camp Refugees in Bankura, Birbhum and Midnapur

*553. Shri Muhammed Elias: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any notice has been issued to the camp refugees of Bankura, Birbhum and Midnapur to quit their camps; and

(b) if so, what is the reason?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Of the 4,951 displaced families living in camps in Bankura, Birbhum and Midnapore districts on the 31st December, 1960, the West Bengal Government are reported to have notified 1,207 families to move to Dandakaranya for resettlement or to leave the camps.

(b) It was hoped that agriculturist families in camps in West Bengal would voluntarily move to Dandakaranya for re-settlement. This not having been successful, it was decided to notify families to move to Dandakaranya to the extent that there were vacancies there for rehabilitation. This step has been taken in consultation with the State Government in order to induce movement of camp families to Dandakaranya.

Allotment of Accommodation to Government Employees

*554. { Shri Tangamani:
Ch. Ranbir Singh:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of Central Government employees who have completed ten