

Shortage of Houses

*336. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH
SHAKYA:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the shortage of houses in the country;

(b) if so, the extent of shortage noticed by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) the number of new houses likely to be constructed to meet the shortage during the Eighth Plan;

(d) whether the Government propose to promote cooperative movement to overcome shortage of houses; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Based on Census data the estimated housing shortage in the country as on 1st March, 1990 was 30.3 million units.

(c) It is estimated by Planning Commission that 15.95 million new dwelling units will be constructed in urban and rural areas during the VIII Five Year Plan.

(d) and (e). The National Housing Policy envisages that the cooperatives and other community based organisations will be encouraged by Central and State Governments to take up various shelter related activities, especially for slum dwellers and the rural poor assisted through preferential land, access to finance and fiscal support. In order to streamline the operation of the housing cooperatives and to remove the existing constraints, the National Housing Policy further contemplates enactment of

separate chapter in the present cooperative laws by State Governments. Financial assistance for housing cooperatives is available from National Housing Bank, HUDCO and LIC.

[*English*]

Un Food Aid Programme

*337. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of food aid released to Orissa under the U.N. Food Aid Programme during the current financial year;

(b) whether this food is likely to be distributed to people of drought hit areas in Orissa; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) During April-July, 1992 the World Food Programme (WFP) of the United Nations System has released 2490 MT of wheat and 2000 MT of rice to Orissa under Project entitled 'Socio-economic development through forestry activities'.

(b) and (c). WFP food aid is specific to the Project. As such, these commodities can be utilised only for distribution amongst the workers engaged in afforestation activities under the project in the districts of Kalahandi, Bolangir, Phulbani, Ganjam, Koraput, Puri, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Sambalpur and Sundergarh of Orissa.

[*Translation*]

Ravine Development Programme

*338. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several acres of fertile land in the catchment areas of Ganga-Yamuna in Bundelkhand are becoming revines;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the spread of ravines;

(c) whether the Government propose to give ownership rights to the farmers of these areas to level these ravines and make them fertile;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) An area of about 39.75 lakh ha. is affected by ravines in the country. Out of this, an area of 5.79 lakh ha. (about 4.64 lakh ha. in U.P. and 1.5 lakh ha. in M.P.) falls in Bundelkhand region.

(b) Under a Centrally funded scheme of 100% Central Assistance to State Plans launched in 1987-88 for accelerated development of ravinous areas of U.P., M.P., 6330 ha. in U.P. and 4968 ha. in M.P. of Bundelkhand Region has been treated. As per the recommendation of the National Development Council, the scheme stands transferred to State Sector from 1990-91.

An integrated watershed Mangement programme in the ravenous areas of Chambal and Yamuna rivers of U.P. is in operation since 1987-88 with EEC assistance.

(c) to (e). The matter falls within the jurisdiction of the State Governments concerned.

Housing Projectors In Orissa

*339. **SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:** Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects under consideration of the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) to solve the housing problems in rural and urban

areas of Orissa;

(b) whether HUDCO has accorded approval to these projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) to (d). As reported by HUDCO, a total number of 17 housing schemes as on 23rd July, 1992 for a loan amount of Rs. 28.12 crores have been forwarded by various agencies in Orissa for HUDCO's approval. Out of these, 10 schemes for a loan amount of Rs. 15.52 crores are pending with borrowing agencies for compliance of appraisal points and 7 rural housing schemes for a loan amount of Rs. 12.60 crores are under process.

Production of Spices

*340. **SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:**
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual demand and production of spices in the country during the last two years and the current year;

(b) the details and value of spices exported/proposed to be exported during the above period; and

(c) the incentives or assistance given or proposed to be given to encourage the production of spices?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) The demand for spices in the country is not assessed. However, the production is given below:-