

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 :