

(c) The maintenance of buffer stocks of foodgrains is intended as a measure of food security of the country so as to ensure stability in supplies and prices over the year. Imports are, however, resorted to as and when considered necessary and feasible taking all the relevant factors into consideration.

(d) Storage losses on Central operations on account of buffer stocks and distribution by the Food Corporation of India during the last 4 years were as under :—

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1980-81	39.41
1981-82	41.79
1982-83	42.48
1983-84	43.38

#### Vanaspati Units

75. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the number of vanaspati manufacturing units in the country and the extent Government have subsidized them ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : There are 92 units manufacturing vanaspati in the country. No subsidy is provided to the vanaspati industry.

#### Recommendations by Committee Appointed to Investigate Causes of Fire in Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station

76. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had appointed a committee to investigate the causes of fire in Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station in U.P.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the salient recommendations of that committee;

(c) whether the committee had suggested remedial measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents in other Super Thermal Power Stations in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). Government of India appointed a Committee on 30th October, 1984 consisting of the Director (Technical), National Thermal Power Corporation, and Member (Operation), Central Electricity Authority to investigate the causes of the fire and the report of the Committee is being finalised.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

#### Increase in Urban Residential Land Prices

77. SHRI MOHAN LAL PATEL : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether urban residential land prices are increasing day by day in the country and particularly in metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to check this rising trend of the urban residential land prices in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) Yes, Sir, there is a definite trend.

(b) Rapid urbanisation, shortage of developed urban land and general inflationary trends etc. are the main factors responsible for increase in land prices in urban areas. There are many other contributory factors, such as increasing commercialisation of land, restrictive land tenure, land use and land lease systems and rent control and building by laws etc.

(c) Following steps have been taken to control urban residential land prices in the country :—

(1) Enactment of Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation Act), 1976.

- (2) Development of urban land for housing by the State Housing Departments and area urban development agencies and increase in the supply of developed land and houses.
- (3) Encouraging group and co-operative housing.
- (4) Other steps to control and trend are, rationalisation of land tenure, land lease, rent control, building by laws and land use systems.

[Translation]

#### Dhauliganga Hydel Project

78. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the investigation work on the Dhauliganga project has since been completed;

(b) if not, the time by which it is expected to be completed; and

(c) whether this project is proposed to be taken up for construction during the Seventh Five Year Plan keeping in view its importance from power generation angle ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No Sir.

(b) For Stage-I, field investigations are likely to be completed by April, 1985, and project report by September, 1985.

(c) This would depend upon the size of the Seventh Plan, which is under finalisation.

amount Allocated under R.L.E.G.P. and N.R.E.P. to U.P.

79. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount provided under Rural

Landless Employment Guarantee Programme and National Rural Employment Programme separately for various districts in Uttar Pradesh during annual plan for 1984-85 and the additional amount likely to be provided by the end of the year;

(b) whether several schemes submitted by Uttar Pradesh have not been approved by his Ministry; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) The amounts allocated for Uttar Pradesh for 1984-85 under the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme and the National Rural Employment Programme are Rs. 85.25 crores and Rs. 39.22 crores respectively. Under the NREP the State Government is required to provide an equal amount as matching share and make further allocations to the districts on the basis of a fixed formula. However, districtwise information of the allocations made in the State is not maintained at the Central level. In so far as the RLEGP is concerned, the funds are allocated to the State Government and it is not necessary for the State Government to make districtwise allocation. The question of additional funds under the NREP over and above the allocation can be considered for a State on the basis of its better performance and subject to availability of funds and provision of matching share by State Government. However, no request for the purpose has been received so far from the Government of Uttar Pradesh. In the case of the RLEGP no additional amount over and above the allocation mentioned is likely to be provided by the end of the year.

(b) and (c). Under the NREP work projects are to be approved by the DRDAs and no approval from this Ministry is required for their execution. In so far as the RLEGP is concerned, the State Governments are required to prepare specific work projects for sanction by the Central Committee for NREP/RLEGP. The State Government have submitted a number of project proposals under the RLEGP