

to obviate this risk. Now lots would be drawn only to decide, which applicant should be allotted which flat; and the selection of people to be considered for allotment, will be done according to the date of registration and payment of initial deposit.

Flood in West Delhi

139. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the colonies in West Delhi were flooded with water during Monsoon this year; and

(b) if so, the total loss and compensation made by the Government to victims and remedial measures proposed to contain the floods in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Delhi Administration have reported that the approximate loss to the property has been assessed to be Rs. 50 lakhs. The families of 18 persons who were drowned in two boat mishaps were given Rs. 5000 each. It is being considered to provide compensation to those whose crops and property were damaged.

The Central Water Commission is considering to take up the following schemes to contain the floods:—

1. Construction of a dam on river Sahibi at Ajmeripura in Rajasthan.

2. Construction of a storage dam on river Sahibi at Masani in Haryana.

3. The improvement of the drainage capacity of the Najafgarh drain to the optimum extent possible which is at present roughly estimated as 800 cases upto Kakraula regulator and 10000 cusecs downstream of Kakraula regulator.

Benefit of rationing to producers who make distress sale of Paddy and Wheat

140. SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that producers of paddy and wheat who are not able to store food crops for their own consumption and are forced to go in for distress sale do not get the benefit of rationing for paddy/wheat and in rural areas sugar is always at the mercy of M.R. Dealers; and

(b) whether the Government have considered any remedy in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). The Government have announced support prices for paddy/wheat and all quantities of paddy/wheat of Fair Average quality offered by the producers are being purchased by the Government agencies under their price support operations. In the circumstances, normally there should be no question of the producers going in for distress sale of their produce.

The State Governments are distributing wheat, rice and sugar through a net work of fair price shops, at fixed prices, to meet the requirements of the vulnerable sections of the community. The distribution system is kept under constant review so as to improve its functioning and coverage. The State Governments have been advised to improve the system of distribution of sugar particularly in the rural areas.

Maintenance of Hazarduari Palace, Murshidabad

141. SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that during the previous Cong-