

(b) if so, when the decision is expected to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Strained Relation between India and Sri Lanka Fishing Community

3885. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the strained relations between the fishing communities of Sri Lanka and India at the coastal areas of South India; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by this Government to restore cordial relations and peaceful atmosphere in that area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The Government of India have not received any report about strained relations between the fishing communities of Sri Lanka and India.

(b) Does not arise.

Sale of a plot of Land at Nehru Place, New Delhi

3886. SHRI CHATURBHUIJ: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Development Authority at Nehru Place auctioned two plots for Rs. 10.25 crores on August 5, last;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these prices are more than double what these were two-three years ago; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) One of the reasons for rise in price in Nehru Place is that the complex has been developed now and almost all essential services are available. However, DDA have stopped up their activities for the development of commercial places.

Mandi tax from Khandsari Units

3887. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mandi Tax is being collected from Khandsari sugar factories;

(b) whether there is any representation to abolish this tax; and

(c) whether the study team which went into the cost of production of Khandsari sugar and other related problems recommended for the abolition of Mandi Tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Khandsari sugar industry is licenced and regulated by the State Governments. According to the information available with the Central Government Mandi Tax has been levied on Khandsari sugar in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c). On representations made by the Khandsari industry to the study team set up by the Government of India which went into the cost production and other related problems of Khandsari sugar, the study team recommended the exemption of Khandsari sugar from Mandi Tax.