

KAMLA KUMARI) : (a) the Government of Madhya Pradesh had imposed 50% levy of wheat on :

- (i) licensed dealers;
- (ii) quantities of wheat moved out of the State;
- (iii) quantities of wheat moved out of the levy zone in Madhya Pradesh to non-levy zone in the State.

However, the scheme of levy indicated at items (i) and (iii) has since been discontinued.

(b) 69920 tonnes have been procured in Madhya Pradesh under the levy scheme as on 26th August, 1981.

(c) No, Sir. No such reports have been received from the State Governments.

(d) Does not arise.

Allotment of Houses to Rural Landless under 'Minimum need Programme'

3156. SHRI MANMOHAN TUDU: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that allotment of houses to rural landless poor people have been expedited under the Minimum Needs Programme ;

(b) whether the above programme has been introduced in Orissa vigorously;

(c) if so, the year of introduction of the above programme in Orissa;

(d) the total number of houses allotted to the rural landless poor of various districts of Orissa under the above Minimum Needs programme; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH) : (a) and (b). The State Governments and U.T. Administration are implementing a scheme for the provision of House Sites-cum-House Construction Assistance for Rural Landless Labourers as a part of Minimum Needs Programme. They have been requested to accelerate the implementation of the programme as it relates to the amelioration of the Weaker Sections of the society.

(c) The programme was introduced in various States including Orissa in 1971.

(d) and (e). As per reports received from the Government of Orissa upto 31-3-1981, 1,97,988 families had been allotted house-sites out of 5,00,000 families estimated as eligible for the assistance. Out of these, 13,831 families had been able to construct their houses through Government efforts. The number of houses constructed by the allottees through their own efforts is not known.

Legislation for Conservation of Forests

3157. SHRI K. PRAJHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have framed any new comprehensive legislation with a view to help the conservation of forests in all parts of the country uniformly; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN) : (a) and (b). A comprehensive legislation on conservation of forests is under formulation.