

(ड) राज्य सरकार ने नहरों में किसी ऐसे दोष की सूचना नहीं दी है जिससे कि उनकी सिंचाई क्षमता में कमी आए ।

**Project for Cultivation of Sugarbeet in Coastal/Saline Areas**

3125. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received for taking up project for cultivation of sugarbeet in coastal/saline areas ;

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken pursuant to such proposal ;

(c) the activity for promoting sugarbeet in Sunderban area, if any, taken by Government or sponsored by it ; the details of actual acreage, yield of beet and yield of sugar etc ;

(d) whether Government propose to take-up the promotion of sugarbeet in Sunderban ; and

(e) if so, the details of the proposal and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such activity has yet been taken up by the Government. However, Indian Council of Agricultural Research has sanctioned a research Scheme to Calcutta University to ascertain adaptability of this crop to saline conditions in general and Sunderban area in particular. Experiments are being conducted on 6 to 7 hectares in Sunderban area and average yield of 50 to 55 tonnes/ha has been obtained. About 6 tonnes/ha sugar yield has been estimated from sugarbeet.

(d) and (e). At present there is no such proposal under consideration of Government. However, Indian Council of Agricultural Research proposes to intensify

research activities on sugarbeet cultivation in Sunderban areas for perfecting the production technology for this crop.

**Financial Assistance to Orissa for Construction of Houses for Weaker Sections**

3126. SHRI RASABEHARI BEHERA : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Orissa have fully utilised the financial assistance provided by the Central Government for construction of houses for the people belonging to weaker sections, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, under the Centrally sponsored schemes during the last two years ; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the houses constructed during 1982-83 and 1983-84 alongwith the financial assistance provided for this purpose ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS, IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN) : (a) Housing, being a State subject, all the Social Housing Schemes including the houses for Economically Weaker Sections, are being implemented by the States/U.Ts. The Union Govt. provides Plan assistance in the form of block grants and block loans without being tied to any particular scheme. However, there is no Centrally Sponsored Scheme for houses for weaker sections SC/STs.

(b) Does not arise.

**Decline in Price of Foodgrains due to Glut**

3127. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total foodgrains production this year ;

(b) whether there is a glut of foodgrains