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viii) Production of aids and applications:

For 15,000 additional Children and adults.

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ix) Provision of text books in braille:

For 50,000 more children and 20,000 adults.

Rise in Urban Land Prices

1433. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the urban land prices have been increasing very rapidly;
 - (b) if so, the main reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken to check the rise in urban land prices?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVEL-OPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) A study conducted by the Town and Country Planning Organisation on urban land prices in India showed a general upward trend in urban land prices.

- (b) The main reasons for increase in urban land prices inter-alia are, growth in urban population, shortage of land in urban areas, inflationary trend in the economy, strategic location of land and Development programmes in the various cities and towns.
- (c) As land is a state subject, different strategies are evolved by the various State Governments to make developed land available at affordable price. Some of the measures taken in this direction are:
 - allotment of developed land and houses at controlled prices to the economically weaker sections of the society;
 - (2) allotting developed land and flats through Housing Boards

and Development Authorities of the State Governments to Cooperative Societies at subsidised rates; and

(3) Environmental improvement of urban slums schemes to reduce the pressure of demand of existing urban land.

Supply of Levy Sugar to Tripura

1434. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUP-PLIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that monthly quota of levy sugar to State of Tripura is far below the actual requirement of the State;
- (b) whether in view of this inadequate supply of sugar, rural people, particularly the tribals, are being put to severe strains;
- (c) whether Government propose to augment the supply of levy sugar to the State as per its requirement; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) and (b). Under the present policy of partial control levy sugar allotments to State Governments/Union Territories are made on uniform norms of ensuring minimum 425 gms. per capita monthly availability for projected population as on 1.10.1986 effective from 1st February, 1987. Accordingly, monthly levy sugar quota for Tripura is 1001