Conversion of Lease Hold System to freehold

*111. SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY:

> SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have taken any decision regarding con-version of lease hold system into freehold in respect of D. D. A. lands in Delhi; and
- (b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIA-MENIRY AFFAIRS WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH):

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Question does not arise.

Subarnarekha Irrigation Project

- **JAYANTI** *113. SHR[MAT] PATNAIK: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:
- (a) the estimated cost of the inter-State Orissa-Bihar Subarnarekha Irrigation Project;
- (b) whether the above Irrigation Project is proposed to be started during 1982-83:
- (c) if so, when are the main works of the proposed Subarnarekha Irrigation Project likely to be started in the above financial year; and
- (b) the details about the progress made so far ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGA-TION (SHRI KEDAR PANDAY): (a) The estimated cost of the inter-State multipurpose Subarnarekha Project prepared by the Government of Bihar is Rs. 430.90 crores, which includes share cost of West Bengal and Orissa in respect of works in Bihar to the extent of Rs. 4.85 crores and Rs. 97.57 crores respectively.

The estimated cost of the Subarnarekha Irrigation Project in Orissa is Rs. 216.55 crores as intimated by the State Government.

The estimated cost of the Subarnarekha barrage in West Bengal is Rs. 61 crores approximately as intimated by the State Government.

(b) to (d). Preliminary works on the Subarnarekha Project in Bihar have already been taken up and expenditure of Rs. 20.51 crores has been incurred upto March, 1981. Additional expenditure of Rs. 11.70 crores is anticipated during the year 1981-82. No work on the Subarnarekha Project in Orissa has yet been taken up.

Purchase of Farm Produce at Support Prices

*114 SHRI MAGANBHAI BA-ROT: Will the Minister of AGRICULT URE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have taken steps so that the farmers bringing their produce to markets are not exploited by un-scrupulous traders, especially as a record harvest is expected to take place;
- (b) will Government make it known widely its commitment to purchase at the support price whatever foodgrains are offered for sale by the farmers;
- arrangements have been made for storage of the large

quantities of produce that are likely to be offered for sale by the farmers; and

(d) whether any changes have been made in the procedures for ensuring the least possible waste of time to the farmers and for prompt payment of the purchase value to them ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRI-CULTURE AND RURAL DE-VELOPMENT AND CIVIL SUP-PLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Necessary arrangements for offering price support to farmers are made well in time every year and will be made this year also.

- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) Adequate arrangements are being made for storage of procured grain. If necessary, additional accommodation will be hired during the peak procurement season.
- (d) Even according to the existing procedure payments are being made promptly. Changes if called for by circumstances shall be made to ensure that farmer's interests remain protected.

Restriction on Sale of Loose Vanaspati Ghee

SHRI RAM SINGH *****115. SHAKYA: SHRI SHEO SARAN VERMA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply given on 21 December, 1981 to Unstarred Question No. 4875 regarding curb on sale of vanaspati in Delhi and lay a statement showing:

(a) reasons for imposing restrictions on the sale of loose vanaspati ghee and in bulk packs while no such restriction has been put on the

sale of smaller packs, thereby helping multinationals to earn more profit and cause difficulties for the consumers:

- (b) steps taken to ensure that 90 percent of the vanaspati ghee is packed in bulk packs of 16.5 kg and the remainder in small packs; and
- (c) the total production of vanaspati ghee by DCM Chemicals and Ganesh Flour Mills, Delhi from December, 1981 till to-date indicating the quantities packed in 16.5 kg, 5 kg, 4 kg, 2 kg and 1 kg tins separately together with the disposal thereof along with reasons for packing more ghee in small tins than 16.5 kg tins?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICUL-TURE AND RURAL DEVELOP-MENT AND CIVIL SUPPLIES BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) to (c). With a view to providing relief to the common consumer, the Delhi Administration considered it necessary to regulate the distribution of vanaspati in bulk packs as well as in loose form. Accordingly, the retailers have been put under a legal obligation to sell vanaspati in loose form at the scale of 5 kg. per fortnight against food However, no food card is required if the demand of the consumer is upto 1 kg. only. Vanaspati in small packs is mainly consumed by the well off consumers. Since prices of vanaspati in small packs are considerably higher than those in loose form, it has not been considered necessary to put any restrictions or regulations on the sale of vanaspatiin small packs. Moreover, there is no scarcity of small packs in the market.

Keeping in view the total monthly production of vanaspati in Delhi, the Delhi Administration has considered the present ratio of bulk packs to small packs as sufficient to meet