

persist. With a view to persuading the States to arrive at an amicable settlement on the sharing of waters, another meeting of the Chief Ministers of the three States of Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Kerala and the Union territory of Pondicherry, is proposed to be held shortly.

(c) The setting up of Cauvery Valley Authority was envisaged in the August 1976 Understanding. However, as the Understanding was not ratified, Cauvery Valley Authority could not be constituted. Efforts are being made to persuade the party States to arrive at an amicable settlement.

Representation of India in International Conference on Jute, Rome

*19. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India remained unrepresented in an international conference on jute, namely Inter-Governmental Group on Jute, Kenaf and Allied Fibres of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) held in Rome from October 25 to 29, 1982;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether in earlier conferences our representative used to attend; and

(c) if not, how the selection used to be made?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

It was decided to depute the Jute Commissioner, Department of Textiles to participate in the Session. The decision was

communicated on telephone to the Department of Textiles who was also requested to advise the Jute Commissioner to proceed to Rome to attend the Session. The Jute Commissioner, however, could not proceed to Rome. In earlier conferences our representative used to attend.

Steps taken by Centre to bring down prices of Land and Buildings

*20. SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL:

SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have taken various steps to bring down the prices of Land and buildings recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the repercussions and effects after the announcement of the above steps; and

(d) what stringent steps have been taken against those who increase the prices exorbitantly?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) to (d). Urban Development. Land and Housing are State subjects. A number of measures have been suggested to the State Governments as elements of Urban Land Policy and for controlling land prices.

The State Governments are taking steps for the acquisition, development and disposal of land. The strategy under the Sixth Plan is to provide sites and services schemes through loans repayable over a long period at a concessional rate of interest. A provision of about Rs. 485 crores has been made in the State sector with a target of constructing 16.2 lakh units for the economically weaker sections. This is to be supplemented by loans from HUDCO to the housing agencies to the extent of Rs. 180 crores. The policy of large scale acquisition, development and

disposal of land is being implemented in Delhi. Specific attention would be given to low cost Housing techniques, modification of building bye-laws and land use controls and stimulation of private housing effort through access to land credit, technical assistance and other incentives. Group and Cooperative housing effort would also be encouraged. The Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 was passed to prevent concentration of land in a few persons to prevent speculation and to bring about a more equitable distribution of urban land. The action on the various steps suggested by the Central Government including action against profiteering is to be initiated mainly by the State Governments. The Central Government levies tax on capital gains from property transactions.

**Payment of Interest to allottees of Flats
(Shalimar Bagh A/c)**

1. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to refer to reply to USQ No. 447/12-7-82 and state:

(a) whether any decision on the pending applications for Payment of interest has been taken till dated (Shalimar Bagh A/c.);

(b) if so, how many claims are accepted/rejected/pending with reasons; and details of formalities to be completed;

(c) is it also a fact that these flats were not cleared by Contractor before July, 81 but as and when flats were ready these were handed over to allottees; give full details;

(d) in how many cases interest has been paid to allottees during the last five years with full details of cases with reasons;

(e) is it also a fact that conveyance deed papers were issued incomplete to the allottees and they have returned them; and

(f) if so, when the revised conveyance deed papers will be issued?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND WORKS
AND HOUSING (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) The DDA has reported that no decision has yet been taken

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

(c) The DDA has denied that the flats were not cleared by the contractor before July, 1981. It has further reported that the flats were handed over to the allottees as and when they came to take over possession.

(d) The DDA has reported that no interest on this account has been paid.

(e) The DDA has reported that conveyance deed papers were sent to the allottees without filling up of the Schedule and boundaries of the flat in accordance with the established procedure for getting the same stamped from the office of the Collector of Stamps. The schedule and the boundaries of the flats used to be filled at the time of execution and registration. Recently, the Collector of Stamps has decided that the schedule and the boundaries of the flat should be filled in before stamping. Accordingly, the allottees have returned the conveyance deeds in a number of cases.

(f) The DDA has reported that after doing the needful such conveyance deeds are being issued to the allottees.

Drought in Orissa

2. SHRI ARJUN SETHI:

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the current crop in most parts of the severally affected areas in Orissa are damaged due to drought situation;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Orissa have approached the Central Government that Kharif loan so far advanced in such drought affected areas will fall due in March 1983;