

(d) whether any technological innovations are introduced to increase the yield per hectare in such States?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-819/77].

SHRI S. KUNDU: I have read the statement which is laid on the Table. I notice that in spite of the efforts made by the Ministry to increase the yield of rice and wheat per acre, in almost all the States in the Eastern India the per acre yield has gone down except for the last year, 1975-76, which is also mostly due to the good weather conditions. Rice being one of the most important crops, has the Minister any specific schemes to develop and increase the yield of rice in eastern India? You are growing rice in Tamil Nadu etc., in the South but the per-acre yield of rice is going down in these States. Therefore, has the hon. Minister any master plan to increase the yield of rice, wheat and other crops in eastern India?

MR. SPEAKER: The Question Hour is over.

SHRI S. KUNDU: Whenever a question is asked, even if the time is over, kindly see that the answer is given.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow if he is willing to answer, but I will not allow any more supplementaries.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: I will provide the answer to him.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS Provisions of the Urban Land Ceiling Act

*611. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that several provisions of the Urban

Land Ceiling Act have hindered the housing activities and programmes both in the Public and Private and Cooperative Sectors in various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the corrective and prompt and effective steps being taken by Government to remedy the situation, so that the legitimate and desirable housing development continues unhindered?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Immediately after the enactment of the Act there was misunderstanding and uncertainty about the various provisions of the Act and consequently there was a slackening in the building activity. The matter was examined and suitable guidelines were issued for the smooth implementation of the Act. *Inter alia*, guidelines were issued for sanctioning plans for construction of buildings on vacant land within the ceiling limit and also in cases where the extent of vacant land was in excess of the ceiling limit. The State Governments have been advised to ensure that the building activity is not hampered due to the implementation of the Act. The question of bringing relief through administrative measures, so that the building activities receive impetus, is under study of the Ministry.

Setting up of Corporation for Lift Irrigation Programme

*613. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up Corporations for taking up comprehensive lift irrigation programme in various States;

(b) whether Government propose to give grants to States for this purpose; and