

**Coconut Plantation during Eighth Plan**

2631. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring more areas in the country under coconut plantation in the Eighth Plan; and

(b) if so, the total hectares of additional land in Karnataka proposed to be brought under coconut plantation during that period?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Coconut Development Board proposes to bring an additional area of 6,000 hectares under new planting of coconut in Karnataka during the plan period.

**Production of Milk in Kerala**

2632. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total milk production in Kerala during 1989;

(b) whether any reports have been received from Kerala regarding problems faced in marketing of milk due to excessive production; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Union Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Estimated milk production in Kerala was 1.5 million tonnes during 1988-1989.

(b) and (c). Government is aware that

there was increased availability of milk in Kerala during the flush period 1989 when Kerala Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (KCMMF) faced certain problems in handling milk due to the absence of milk drying facilities. At the request of KCMMF, it has, now been decided by the National Dairy Development Board to set up a 10 MT capacity milk drying plant at Alleppey.

**Repair and Maintenance of Ichhapuram-Palasa Section of National Highway No. 5**

2633. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of Ichhapuram-Palasa section of National Highway No. 5 has deteriorated and needs urgent and proper maintenance; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken for its repair and maintenance?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) and (b). A sum of Rs. 50 lakhs has been released to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for immediate repair of flood damages on various National Highways including Ichhapuram-Palasa Section of NH-5. The condition of this Section is now traffic-worthy.

[Translation]

**Consumption, Production and Import of Pulses and Edible Oils**

2634. SHRI KESHRI LAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the average annual consumption of pulses and edible oils;