

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;

(b) the total quantity of pulses and edible oils produced indigenously and the quantity thereof imported to meet the demand:

(c) the steps taken so far to achieve self-reliance in pulses and edible oils, and

(d) the time by which the country is likely to become self-reliant in this field?

**THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI**

LAL): (a) It is difficult to make precise estimates of total actual consumption of pulses and edible oils in the absence of data regarding stocks in possession of traders and producers

(b) A statement—I is given below.

(c) and (d). The details relating to the Government strategy for achieving self-reliance in pulses and edible oils are given in the Statement—II below

STATEMENT-I

Total production and imports of pulses and edible oils from 1986-87 to 1988-89

<i>Year</i>	<i>Pulses</i>		<i>Edible Oils</i>		
	<i>Domestic Production</i>	<i>Imports*</i>	<i>Domestic production</i>	<i>Imports</i>	
1	2	3	4	5	
1986-87	117.07	6.25	33.48		14.97
1987-88	109.62	5.87	37.67		18.19
1988-89	137.03	8.27	49.50		3.73

*Pertains to the financial year.

STATEMENT-II

The details relating to strategy adopted for achieving self-reliance in pulses and edible oils

I. Strategy relating to pulses

- i) Introduction of pulses in irrigated areas under double and multiple cropping.
- ii) Bringing additional area under cultivation of (a) summer pulses with irrigation after mustard, sugarcane, potato and wheat and under lentil in the rabi season, (b) short duration arhar in rotation with wheat in northern States and (c) short duration urad, moong varieties etc. in the rice fallows by utilising residual moisture of rabi season.
- iii) Inter-cropping of pulses like arhar with crops like soyabean, bajra, cotton, sugarcane and groundnut under both irrigated and unirrigated conditions
- iv) Increased adoption of inputs like improved seeds, plant protection measures, phosphatic fertilisers and rhizobium culture

The above strategy to increase domestic production of pulses is supported by two programme i.e. (a) the Centrally Sponsored National Pulses Development Programme (N.P.D.P.) and (b) the Central Sector Programme under the Special Foodgrains Production Programme (S.F.P.P.).

II. Strategy relating to edible oils:

- i) Implementation of the National Oilseeds Development Project, besides, an Oilseeds Production

and Thrust Programme (OPTP) has been introduced with 100% assistance to States for rendering help to oilseed farmers regarding seeds, plant protection and extension of technology.

- ii) Oilseeds Project of the National Dairy Development Board.
- iii) Better incentive to producers through fixation of minimum support prices.
- iv) Intensification of research efforts for increasing the productivity of oilseeds.
- v) Increase in area under non-traditional oilseed crops like soyabean and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran etc.
- vi) Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds.
- vii) Setting up of Technology Mission on Oilseeds Production.

As a short term measure Government has had to resort to import of edible oils as a supplemental step.

[English]

Abolition of Sales Tax in Delhi

2635. SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for the abolition of Sales Tax in Delhi; and