

(c) whether any new projects have been approved; and

(d) by what time these projects are likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) An outlay of Rs. 100 crores for the VIII Plan as prosoed by the Coconut Development Board has been approved.

(b) The entire outlay is for plan programmes.

(c) and (d). An outlay of Rs. 9 crores has been approved for the first year of Eighth Plan (1992-93) and programmes launched. No new scheme has been approved.

Panel of Experts on Oil Exploration

***447. SHRI SHRAVN KUMAR PATEL:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Panel of Experts on Oil Exploration appointed to examine the issues regarding boosting crude exploration and production and reducing imports has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the panel; and

(c) the follow-up action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) No such 'Panel of Experts' has been appointed.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Committee on Agricultural Marketing

***448. SHRI M.V. CHANDRA SHEKARA MURTHY:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the High Powered Committee on Agricultural Marketing has recommended to the union Government to review their decision to transfer the Central Schemes for development of markets to the States;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to review the decision; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) In their Interim Report, the High Power Committee on Agricultural Marketing has recommended that the decision of Government to transfer the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Markets to the States should be reviewed.

(b) and (c). As the decision to transfer this Scheme to the State Sector has been taken by the National Development Council on the basis of a recommendation to that effect made by a Committee of the National Development Council it is not proposed to review the above decision.

Loss to Agricultural Sector

***449. SHRI SOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss to the agricultural sector due to adverse terms of trade during the last three years;