

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) According to the memorandum received from the Government of Orissa 13 districts including Phulabani were affected by drought during post monsoon period 1984.

(b) and (c): According to the information received from the State Government the following relief measures in the district of Phulabani have been initiated:

- (i) Facility for supply of water from Lift Irrigation Point and through diesel pumps was extended to the cultivators at subsidised rates to raise rabi crops;
- (ii) Rupees One lakh fifty thousand was sanctioned for construction of cross bunds to provide life saving irrigation as well as labour intensive works to affected people;
- (iii) Rupees nine lakhs was specifically allotted for undertaking labour intensive works in affected areas;
- (iv) To mitigate scarcity of drinking water fifty tube wells are being installed in unidentified villages of the district; and
- (v) Prior to this, during 1984 Rupees six lakhs was also sanctioned to the district for installation of thirty tube wells.

The Central Government have released a sum of Rs. 500.00 lakhs as "On Account Payment" to the Government of Orissa for meeting the urgent expenditure pending the issue of final sanction. Moreover, the State Government have got Margin Money of Rs. 871 lakhs for meeting emergent expenditure on relief.

Tissue Culture Techniques for Plant Propagation

1617. DR. K. G. ADIYODI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the crops in which tissue culture technique has been successfully introduced for propagation;

(b) whether this has been attempted to coconut also;

(c) if so, with what results;

(d) the encouragement being given to Indian scientists who did the work on account in this regard; and

(e) the time by which the farmers can expect coconut seedlings produced through tissue culture?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The National Seminar on Plant Tissue Culture held in March, 1983 identified the following crops where technology has been developed to the level of exploitation:

Fruits: Citrus, banana, pineapple and pomegranate.

Spices: Cardamom, ginger and turmeric.

Ornamentals: Orchids, carnation, gladiolus; bougainvillea, chrysanthemum and ferns.

Forest trees: Teak and *Eucalyptus*.

Commercial crops: Sugarcane.

Medicinal plants: Glycyrrhiza, jojoba and *Dioscorea deltoidea*.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) At the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute of the Indian Council

of Agricultural Research, clonal plantlets were obtained directly from tender leaf segments taken from two year old seedlings. This was the first instance of direct differentiation of embryoids and plantlets from coconut leaf segments. The plantlet has been transferred to a sand-vermiculite medium where its progress is under observation.

(d) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has instituted nine awards for encouragement to scientists and for recognition of outstanding research in the field of agriculture and allied sciences. The concerned coconut scientists can be considered for these awards.

(e) The application of this technique for production of tissue cultured material on a large scale is expected to take another 8-5 years.

Effect of Video Piracy on Film Industry

1618. SHRI M. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the problem faced by the film industry because of large scale of Video piracy ;

(b) if so, whether Government have assessed the adverse impact of this on the revenue from film industry ; and

(c) the action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No such assessment has been made by the Government.

(c) The need for curbing video piracy is universally acknowledged and the Government of India have already taken a number of legislative and executive measures to fight the menace of video piracy.

Expenditure on Research and Development of Certain Crops

1619. SHRI I. RAMA RAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent for research and development during 1982-83 in respect of cashewnut, pepper, ginger, coconut, cardamom and turmeric which earned foreign exchange to the tune of Rs. 134 crores, 29 crores, 5.9 crores, 134 crores, 16 crores and 4.2 crores respectively during the year ; and

(b) whether there is any linkage between foreign exchange earning and Government's expenditure on research and development efforts on these crops ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) The amount spent for Research and Development during 1982-83 is given below :

(Rs. in lakhs)

Crop	Research	Development	Total Amount
1	2	3	4
(i) Cashewnut	5.22	104.93	110.15
(ii) Pepper	21.31	5.76	27.07
(iii) Ginger			
(iv) Turmeric			