

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). The studies carried out on mechanised farming with special reference to impact of tractorisation reveal that tractorisation generates non-farm employment in the manufacture, repair and maintenance and also generates indirect employment through multiplier effect. It has also been concluded that demand for hired labour for farm work increases accompanied by a reduction in the family labour particularly women and children.

**Amendment of contract labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act**

1117. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI N. DENNIS :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, to plug the legal loopholes in its implementation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The amendments to the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 are being processed. Recently, definition of 'Appropriate Government' under the Act has been amended through the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Amendment Ordinance No. 3 of 1986, and a Bill to replace the said Ordinance has been introduced in Rajya Sabha.

**Rise in prices of fertilizers**

1118. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the steep rise in prices of fertilizers and petroleum products is likely to affect the food production; and

(b) if so, the anticipated fall in the targets of food production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Cost of Production of Coconut and Copra**

1119. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Commission on Agricultural Costs and Prices, which was asked to study on priority basis the cost of production of coconut and copra, has submitted its report to the Government; and

(b) if so, the principal findings of the Commission and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No, Sir. The Commission on Agricultural Costs and Prices while formulating their price proposals in respect of different crops takes into account a number of relevant factors, among which one of the most important factors is the cost of cultivation of the specific crops. The study of cost of cultivation of coconut, which is a plantation and perennial crop, requires a different methodology as compared to the on-going studies for cultivated crops (like wheat, paddy, cotton, oilseeds etc.). Steps are under way to undertake the required study.

(b) Does not arise.

**Implementation of Recommendations of Sen Committee**

1120. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : DR. B. L. SHAILESH : DR. SUDHIR ROY : SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : SHRI C. P. THAKUR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :