

allowance for these shortages. Some reasonable shortages should be permitted to the societies doing retail business which would cut-down their losses marginally.

- (h) There is a case for an upward revision in the margin on PDS items. If the margins are not revised, the societies undertaking PDS business would, sooner than later go in losses, creating another problems for the State Government to solve. In case it is not possible to increase the margins, the State Government may consider providing some managerial subsidies to the societies.

[English]

Electrification

2153. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for electrification of Rajkot, Bhavanagar, Baroda, Ratlam and other divisions in Western Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the railway lines in Western Railway which had been electrified during the last three years; and

(e) the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No rail line sections under these divisions are proposed to be electrified.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As electrification projects are capital intensive, only those routes having high traffic density and qualify for electrification by way of rate of return on capital investment being more than the minimum prescribed limits are considered for electrification.

(d) and (e).

Year	Section	Expenditure
1991-92	Nil	Nil
1992-93	Sabarmati-Chandoliya	2.98 Crores
1993-94	Chandoliya-Gandhinagar	13.74 Crores
	Total	16.72 Crores

Cashew Plantation

2154. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the measures being taken and extent of allocation made to increase the yield of cashew plantations;

(b) the total area under cashew cultivation in the country at present, State-wise;

(c) the total yield of raw cashew in each State;

(d) whether any projects have been submitted by the Kerala Government to increase the yield of cashew and to improve its variety; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) During 8th plan an outlay of Rs. 48 crores have been made for implementing measures viz., area expansion, adoption of comprehensive production technology, adoption of intensive pest control measures, setting up of regional nurseries, etc., for increasing production and productivity of cashew.

(b) The Statewise area under cashew cultivation for the year 1993-94 is given below :

State	Area in ha.
Kerala	155810
Karnataka	74790
Goa	46160
Maharashtra	51220
Tamil Nadu	96770
Andhra Pradesh	72090
Orissa	60190
West Bengal	6900
Others	1490
Total	565420

(c) The Statewise yield of cashew for the year 1993-94 is given below :

Name of State	Yield (Kg/ha)
Kerala	899
Karnataka	421
Goa	749
Maharashtra	552
Tamil Nadu	198
Orissa	721
West Bengal	578
Andhra Pradesh	645
Others	241

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Railway Station

2155. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering any