

to the latest provisional reports, the number of mandays lost due to strikes and lockouts was 29.2 million during the year 1985 which shows a decrease when compared to a loss of 56.03 million mandays in the year 1984.

(c) The Central and State Governments continue to make efforts to lesson the incidence of industrial disputes and minimise the loss of mandays through preventive mediation, conciliation, arbitration and adjudication.

**Purchase of copra by National Agriculture Co-operative Marketing Federation**

3026. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI :

DR. K. G. ADIYODI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) total quantity of copra produced in the country;

(b) whether there is any proposal for purchase of copra by National Agriculture Co-operative Marketing Federation in view of the distress sale of copra in the market; and

(c) the break-up of copra purchased till now and at what rate ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Total production of coconut in the country is estimated at 6887.2 million nuts for 1984-85. The exact quantity of copra produced in the country is not available. However, according to one estimate, it is about 3.87 lakh tonnes annually.

(b) and (c). To arrest the fall in prices of coconut in Kerala and Lakshadweep, a market intervention scheme for purchase of copra at Rs. 1200/- per quintal is in operation. The scheme is being operated from 14.1.86 through cooperatives with National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation as the nodal agency at the national level. Under this scheme, 8088 MTs have been purchased upto 10th March, 1986 in-

cluding 7576 MTs in Kerala and 512 MTs in Lakshadweep. In addition, in Kerala the cooperatives had purchased 11,000 MTs under the State Government price support scheme at Rs. 1200/- per quintal.

[Translation]

**Workers rendered jobless due to closure of mines in Panna district**

3027. SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers rendered jobless due to the closure of diamond mines in Panna district and the arrangements made for providing them with alternative jobs; and

(b) whether in view of high prices of diamonds, these mines are likely to make profit if these are restored with modern techniques ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) There has been no loss of employment as a result of the closure of the Ramkheria mine of Panna Diamond Mining Project of National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) in 1979. Those who did not opt for the Voluntary Retirement Scheme introduced by the Corporation were absorbed at the Majhgawan mine of the same Mining Project.

(b) In view of the high cost of production as compared to the sales realisation, it will not be economical to restart the Ramkheria mine.

**Constitution of State Land Use Boards**

3028. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the States which have constituted State Land Use Boards; and

(b) the States where these boards have started functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA