

Procurement and Sale of Copra, Coconuts

2479. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent by the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) for procurement of coconuts and copra during the last one year, ending 30 June, 1986;

(b) the further steps proposed to be taken by NAFED to stabilise the price of coconuts, copra and coconut oil in Kerala;

(c) whether NAFED has got any specific proposals to sell tender coconuts are not available;

(d) whether NAFED has struck any deal with the State of Karnataka regarding sale of tender coconuts from that State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) NAFED has invested Rs. 14.49 crores on the purchase of copra during the last cooperative year, 1985-86.

(b) Market intervention scheme implemented by NAFED has stabilised prices of copra above the indicative price of Rs. 1200 per quintal of Fair Average Quality. At the instance of Government of Kerala, NAFED has been supplying copra procured under the scheme to the Kerala State Coconut Development Corporation for conversion into coconut oil for distribution through Public Distribution System.

(c) NAFED is examining the feasibility of selling coconut in Delhi.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Allocation of Funds to Gujarat by NDDB-IDC

2480. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that under Government of India's Operation Flood I and II, maximum funds have been allocated to Gujarat by NDDB-IDC located in that State;

(b) what steps were taken by NDDB-IDC to overcome to destruction of prized milch cattle in drought affected Gujarat; and

(c) whether NDDB-IDC had also taken any remedial steps to meet drought conditions vis-a-vis milch animals under the two Operation Flood projects in other States in India and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Operation Flood Project does not have any provision for drought relief.

[*Translation*]

Implementation of Land Reforms

2481. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that throughout the country big agriculturists have retained land much in excess of permissible ceiling through benami transactions, thereby making infructuous the very object of the land reforms, as envisaged in the Constitution; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to suggest a model law to all the States to check the said benami transactions and also provide for distribution of such surplus land among Scheduled Castes and labourers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) The national guidelines drawn up on the basis of the Chief Ministers' Conference on ceiling on agriculture holdings in July 1972 provide that the States should give retrospective effect to the ceiling laws from a date not later than 24th January, 1971.

The guidelines also provide that the States ceiling laws should make a specific provision making it clear that the onus of proving the *bonafide* nature of any transfer of land made after that date will be on the transferer.

As a result of the implementation of pre-revised and revised ceiling laws, a total of about 73.75 lakh acres have been declared surplus. This is much less than the estimated surplus and may be due to the following reasons :

- (a) Provision of land holdings upto twice the ceiling limit for family with more than 5 members;
- (b) Provision to give separate ceiling limits for major sons in the family;
- (c) Provision for treating every shareholder of a joint family as a separate unit for ceiling limits as applicable under transfer law;
- (d) Higher ceiling levels and exemption to plantation and religious and charitable institutions; and
- (e) Evasion and avoidance of the laws.

(b) Since land is a State subject, it is for the State Governments to enact legislation concerning the same. There is no proposal to suggest a model law to the States.

However, the Government, have been impressing upon the States to plug loopholes in the implementation of the ceiling laws and take legislative and administrative measures to counter evasion and avoidance of the laws. The Revenue Ministers' Conference held in May, 1985 has made a number of recommendations in this regard.

[English]

Cashew Plantation

2482. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to bring additional land under cashew

plantation during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the new areas/States identified for the purpose;

(c) the target set for the Seventh Plan for cashew plantation under different Centrally sponsored programmes in different States; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The States proposed for extension of area are Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Tripura and Union Territories of Goa and Pondicherry.

(c) and (d). The programme taken up under Centrally sponsored scheme include plant protection in 94270 hectares, laying out 4250 demonstration plots, establishment of a scion bank in an area of 19.6 hectares, improvement by vegetative propagation in 4500 hectares, area expansion by planting seedlings and epicotyl grafts in 3900 hectares and establishment of clonal orchards in 250 hectares in the above States.

Fodder Plantation in Drought Prone Areas

2483. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have a proposal to assist State Governments to start fodder plantation in the drought prone area in different States;

(b) whether Government have earmarked any fund for this purpose;

(c) whether Government have sent guidelines to State Government to take steps in this direction; and

(d) the other details of the programme of Union Government in this regard ?