

Advances to Agricultural Sector by the Public Sector Banks in Kerala

1719. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the advances made by the public sector banks to the agricultural sector in Kerala during the last three years;

(b) whether the amount is less when

compared to other States; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to rectify this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (c). Details of outstanding advances of the public sector banks of agricultural sector in Kerala for the three years ending December 1985 are given below.

As at the end of	No. of A/cs.	Balance outstanding (Rs. in crores)
December 1983	835716	243
December 1984	894973	299
December 1985	965448	356

Deployment of bank credit for agriculture in a region/State depends upon various factors such as agro-climatic conditions, availability of irrigation facilities, credit absorption capacity of the borrower, reasonable recovery expectations etc. however, as against All India growth rate in agricultural advances during the years ending 1984 and 1985 at 22.1 per cent and 19.7 per cent, the relative percentages in respect of Kerala were 23.5 per cent and 19.1 per cent respectively. Thus, the performance of Kerala State compares reasonably well with the All India growth rate in respect of agricultural advances.

Diversion of Forest Land for non-Forestry Purposes

1720. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the area of forest land diverted for non-forestry purposes in Kerala during the last three years;

(b) the number of requests received from the State Government of Kerala, during the last three years for diversion of forest land to non-forestry purposes; and

(c) the decision taken on these requests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): (a) An area of 350.8 hectares of forest land has been diverted for non-forest uses in Kerala, during the years 1984, 1985 and 1986.

(b) and (c). 22 proposals have been received from the State Government of Kerala during the last three years. The position is as under:-

12 cases :	Approved
3 cases :	Not approved
1 case :	Withdrawn by the State Government.
6 cases :	Treated as closed due to non-receipt of essential information from the State Government.

Environmental Clearance to Hydro-Electric Power Project

1721. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Idamalayar Hydro-Electric Power Project of Kerala has been cleared by his Ministry;

(b) whether eminent geologists have opined that the site proposed for the Idamalayar Project is not suited for the pro-

posed type of dam as the site is located in seismic zone;

(c) whether the project has been resubmitted for clearance;

(d) the alterations made in the project; and

(e) the decision of the Ministry regarding the proposed project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). This project has not yet been referred to the Ministry of Environment and Forests for consideration. No details are, therefore, available.

P.M. Visit to Tribal Areas in Kerala

1722. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the tribal areas in Kerala which Prime Minister visited during 1985-86 and 1986-87; and

(b) whether Prime Minister proposes to visit more tribal areas in Kerala during 1987-88, if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) During the year 1985-86 the Prime Minister visited the tribal areas of Kumili and Kottathara in Kerala. The Prime

Minister did not visit any tribal area of Kerala during the year 1986-87.

(b) No decision has so far been taken.

Waste land Development

1723. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned to the voluntary agencies in Gujarat for the year 1986-87 and 1987-88 as grant-in-aid for the purpose of seed distribution, raising nurseries, demonstration and creation of awareness among masses on wasteland development;

(b) the names and details of such voluntary agencies in Gujarat; and

(c) the progress made by these agencies so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Rs. 1.23 crores in 1986-87 and Rs. 22.25 lakhs in 1987-88 (upto 25.7.1987).

(b) The names and addresses of these agencies are given in Statement-I below.

(c) The progress as indicated by them is given in Statement-II below.

STATEMENT

	Name of the Agency	Address of the Agency
1.	Agha Khan Rural Support Programme	Choic Premises Swastik Cross Road,, Ahmedabad Gujarat.
2.	S.E.W.A.	SEWA Reception Centre Opp., Victoria Garden, Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
3.	Halpati Sewa Sangh	Kamgar Ghar Sardar Bagh, Bardoli-394602 Gujarat.