

They are being requested to furnish the relevant information.

Coconut as oilseed

3132. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received any request from Government of Kerala to declare the coconut as an oilseed; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Production of Oilseeds

3133. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Union Government to ensure that requisite quality of seeds of oilseeds are made available to States in time;

(b) whether it is a fact that production of oilseeds in kharif crop of 1987 is likely to come down because of the non-availability of seeds in many States; and

(c) if so, the action contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Government of India have enacted a legislation viz., the Seeds Act, 1966 to regulate the quality of seeds including seeds of oilseeds. As per the provisions of the Act, standards have been laid

down to ensure the quality of seeds and it is the responsibility of the State Governments to enforce the provisions of Quality Control and ensure timely availability of seeds.

(b) No major shortages have been reported of the seeds of oilseeds crops during Kharif '87 except minor shortage in few crops. Shortage, if any, in production of oilseeds crops in Kharif 1987 would not be on account of non-availability of seeds.

(c) Question does not arise.

Housing Shortage in the Country

3134. SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the shortage of housing as estimated by the National Building Organisation at the beginning of Seventh Plan:

(b) the estimated additional requirement of housing for population growth during the Seventh Plan;

(c) Seventh Plan target for construction of houses;

(d) whether housing requirements has increased further by about 15 per cent between 1981 and 1985; and

(e) whether Government are planning any crash programme for meeting the current needs and also for reducing previous gaps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) According to the National Buildings Organisation estimates the housing shortage at the beginning of the 7th Plan was 24.7 million dwelling units.

(b) 16.2 million dwelling units.

(c) Housing is a State subject and the State Governments/Union Territory