Cheating of Orissa Labour by Continental Construction Company for job abroad

3457 PROF MADHU DANDAVATE Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

- (a) whether it is a fact that labourers from Orissa working in continental Construction Company Ltd at Delhi were assured by the company and their private agents who had received huge amounts from the labour ers that they would be given preference when labourers are sent to Gulf countries for employment,
- (b) whether the labourers from Orissa were denied opportunities to go to Gulf countries despite these assurances,
- (c) whether the matter was taken up at the Tripartite Meeting convened by the Union Labour Ministry and the assurance

given at this meeting by the construction company's representatives that the Orissa labourers would be sent to the Gulf countries, and

(d) If so, what steps are taken to expeditiously implement this assurance which has so far remained unimplemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PA SANGMA) (a) to (d) Continental Construction Company Pvt Ltd., New Delhi had promised jobs abroad to some of their Orya workers and after interview/selection, 40 workers have been sent abroad for employment

Price of Damaged Jawar Crops in Maharashtra

3458. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the Marathwada region of Maharashtra some of the Kharif jawar crops are blackened due to untimely rains;
- (b) if so, whether the peasants have been informed that they would not receive the prescribed price for their crops which are blackened; and
- (c) if so, the steps proposed to compensate the loss suffered by the concerned peasants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAK-WANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government of Maharashtra has decided to purchase the rain affected blackened/discoloured jowar where the component of black grain is beyond 5 per cent but which is fit for human consumption at the rate of Rs. 125 per quintal with effect from 30.10.1987.

Seminar on Coconut

3459. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Seminar on coconut was organised jointly by the Ministry of Agriculture and Government of Kerala in 1986;
- (b) if so, the main problems discussed in that seminar; and
 - (c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND** COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAK-WANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The main problems discussed in the seminar were on productivity improvement, processing, product diversification and price stabilisation.
- (c) The recommendations of the seminar had been sent to the concerned for follow up action. Coconut Development Board has already taken up programmes for improving productivity as well as product diversification besides encouraging processing of coconut. As regards price stabilisation, Government of India have decided to fix the support price for coconut (copra) on a regular basis.

Serving of Food on Tuesdays

SHRI V/ KOM PURUSHO-3460. THAMAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIA-TION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2811 on 10 August, 1987 regarding serving of non-vegetarian food on Tuesday and state:

- (a) whether the reactions of the passengers have since been assessed;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether it is proposed to introduce the system of ascertaining the dietary preferences of passengers in advance at the time of purchasing of tickets, so that passengers who prefer non-vegetarian meals even on Tuesday are not put to inconvenience?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MIN-ISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Most of the passengers have accepted service of only vegetarian lunch and dinner on Tuesdays.

(c) No. Sir.