

- (vi) Foreign exchange incentive quota for overseas advertising publicity promotional tours
- (vii) Import of provisions and equipment including (vehicles upto two each year)
- (viii) Concessional customs duty on a number of items imported by hotels.
- (ix) Priority in the allotment of telephone/telex connections.
- (x) Capital and interest subsidy on loans advanced by the State Financial Corporations/Scheduled Banks.
- (ix) Subsidy on the preparation of feasibility reports for projects and training of manpower resources
- (xii) Exemption/reduction of stamp duty/registration fee/octroi duty
- (xiii) Making available land, water and electricity at concessional rates.
- (xiv) Interest subsidy scheme under which financial assistance for acquiring cars and coaches by approved travel agents/tour operators and car operators will be made available to them by the State Bank of India and its branches at a interest subsidy rate of 3%.

At the instance of the Government of India the State Governments/ Union Territories of Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Meghalaya, Kerala, Arunachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Tripura, Goa, Manipur and Andaman

and Nicobar Administration have declared tourism as an industry and the State Govts. of Orissa, Rajasthan and West Bengal have declared hotels as an industry.

#### **National Watershed Development Programme**

3490. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the States where the scheme of National Watershed Development Programme for rainfed agriculture is in operation; and

(b) the work done under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a). The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Agriculture is in operation in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(b) During the first year of the scheme, 1986-87, a sum of Rs. 1324.544 lakhs was released to cover 95,865 ha. area under works programme.

#### **Training course in Production Technology of Crops**

3491. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any training courses in production technology for various crops are conducted in the States; and

(b) if so, the details of the courses being conducted in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAK-WANA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Directorate of Extension, Ministry of Agriculture organises training courses at regional level, in crop production technologies in State Agricultural Universities, ICAR (Indian Council of Agriculture Research) Institutes and other Central Institutes for States Extension personnel. A training course on Coconut and Arecanut production technology is on from November 17-30, 1987 at the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasargod. The Kerala Agricultural University, Trichur is to conduct a training course on Cashew Production Technology from February 1-14, 1988.

The four Krishi Vigyan Kendras functioning in the State have also been organizing training courses in crop production. As per the information available, these Krishi Vigyan Kendras organized 88 training courses for 1692 persons in crop production during the year 1986.

[*Translation*]

#### **Research Work on Potato Production**

3492 DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some research work is going on to increase the production of potato;

(b) if so, the details of the progress made in this regard so far; and

(c) if not, the measures being taken to increase the production of potato?

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 research work to increase the production of potato is carried out at the Central Potato Research Institute, Simla and its 11 Regional Stations located in various States of the country. Area specific multi-disciplinary research is being conducted under the All India Coordinated Potato Improvement Project at its 21 centres of research of which four centres have been started in the Seventh Plan only.

Twenty five improved varieties of potato including some resistant to late blight, wart, cyst nematode and frost, have been bred of which 12 varieties have been recommended by the All India Coordinated Potato Improvement project for cultivation in various agro-climatic regions of the country. Package of practices for potato production in all the 8 major potato zones of the country have been standardised. All diseases and insect pests affecting potato have been identified and their control measures recommended-besides developing forecasting system for occurrence of late blight in hills. Seed plot technique developed at CPRI has made it possible to produce disease free breeders seed of potato in the plains of the country to the tune of about 1500 tonnes annually.

(c) Question does not arise.

#### **Review of Advertisement Policy**

3493. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to review their advertisement policy;