

(a) whether agricultural research has proved that growing of oil palm extensively in the country's vast coastline would be found most profitable to meet the shortage of edible oil in the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ;

(c) whether Government propose to promote oil palm cultivation in the country; and

(d) if so, the incentives, if any, to be given for the cultivation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI) : (a) to (d). Sir. Research on oil palm carried out in Kerala State has shown that oil palm cultivation is profitable. Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture has constituted a Working Group to make an assessment of the potentialities of oil palm cultivation in India and to identify suitable areas for its cultivation. A decision regarding incentives and other related matters will be taken on receipt of the report.

Growing of Sea Cucumber

1383. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of sea cucumber grown within the country during the last two years ;

(b) whether Central Seafish Research Centre in Cochin has developed technology to grow sea cucumber in artificial environment ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) whether Government propose to grow sea cucumber artificially on commercial basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI

HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI) : (a) At present sea-cucumbers are not cultured in the country, However, during 1986-87 and 1987-88 about 47 and 46 tonnes respectively processed sea cucumbers have been exported from the country which were exploited from nature.

(b) and (c). Recently, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has achieved a breakthrough in experimentally induced breeding of one species of sea cucumber *Holothuria scabra* under controlled conditions and rearing through its various stages of development.

(d) No. Sir.

Delhi City Museum

1384. DR. G. S. RAJHANS ;
SHRIMATI MADHUREE
SINGH :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's plans are underway for the designing of the Delhi City Museum which is proposed to be set up in the walled city area ;

(b) if so, the time by which the said museum is likely to be set up; and

(c) the details of the objects which are proposed to be exhibited in the museum ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) to (c). Delhi Administration proposes to set up the City Museum in 18 to 24 months' time, depending upon the availability of funds. The Museum will have objects which will reflect the history and culture of Delhi.

Oil Slicks Pollution in Indian Ocean

1385. DR. G. S. RAJHANS ;
SHRIMATI MADHUREE
SINGH :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :