

### Cultivation of Palm Oil

3953. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to State :

(a) whether palm oil is being imported at present;

(b) the extent to which the domestic requirements of oil are met by indigenous production;

(c) whether any scheme has been formulated for a large scale cultivation of palm oil in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The extent of domestic requirement is not fully met by indigenous production and balance requirement is met through imports.

(c) and (d). Oil palm is cultivated in Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands where the agro-climatic conditions are suitable. In Kerala, the Oil Palm India Ltd., which is a joint venture of Governments of India and Kerala, is undertaking plantations and in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, the Andaman & Nicobar Forests and Plantations Development Corporation is undertaking plantations of red oil palm.

### Release of Funds for Housing Schemes to States

39540. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of States who have urged the Central Government to release funds for housing schemes in rural areas of the States as on 1 January, 1985;

(b) the details of the scheme and action taken by Government thereon;

(c) the assistance given to each State during the year 1984-85 under the project and the details of work done by each State; and

(d) the provision made for the year 1985-86 to implement the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (d). Housing is a State subject. Central assistance for State plans is given in the form of block loans and block grants, without being tied to any particular head of development or scheme.

### Introduction of Balti and Tibetan Sections in A.I.R. Station, Leh

3955. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Leh Station of A.I.R. broadcasts only in Ladakhi dialect and not in Balti and Tibetan dialects which are also spoken by many inhabitants of Ladakh region;

(b) whether the so called "Azad Kashmir Radio" and Lhasa station of Radio Beijing also broadcast Balti and Tibetan language programmes respectively through their very powerful short-wave transmitters;

(c) if so, steps taken by Government to counter the strong propaganda broadcast particularly of the so-called Azad Kashmir Radio and also of Radio Beijing ;

(d) whether Government propose to introduce Balti section and Tibetan section in the Leh station of A.I.R.; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) Besides programmes in