

### World Bank Aid for Plantation Crops and Horticulture

77. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to help India in a big way for the further development of plantation crops and horticulture;

(b) if so, whether India has agreed to this proposal;

(c) if so, the main features of the proposed scheme and how India is utilising this World Bank aid;

(d) whether World Bank had pumped 3800 million dollars to the Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation for the development of agriculture in India but the bulk of the amount had been utilised for the development of minor irrigation; and

(e) if so, whether this was objected by the World Bank and whether Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation has prepared a scheme for the development of plantation crops and horticulture in India and the same has been approved by the World Bank Team which had recently visited India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a): The assistance of World Bank is available for the development of plantation crops and horticulture also wherever specific viable projects in suitable areas can be formulated.

(b) Government of India have already obtained the clearance of the World Bank for the following two programmes:

- (i) Kerala Agricultural Development Project for the development of plantation crops.
- (ii) J. & K. horticulture development project.

(c) Main features of (i) Kerala Agricultural Development Project and (ii) J. & K. Horticulture Project are enclosed as statements I & II respectively. World Bank Aid is being utilised as spelt out in Statements I & II.

(d) The total World Bank credit under 35 projects to be implemented through ARDC, which also includes credit component for other implementing agencies amounted to US dollar 1660 million; of this, nearly US dollar 870 million is available to ARDC. Of the 35 projects, only 3 i.e. the 2 projects referred to under item (c) and the 3rd the Himachal Pradesh Apple Processing Project started in 1974 and due to terminate in 1978—relate to plantation crops and horticulture. On the other hand, under 10 individual State projects and 2 general lines of credit, the main emphasis was on financing minor irrigation investments.

(e) In view of the large allocation made by World Bank itself for minor irrigation, the question of objection by the World Bank does not arise. ARDC has not prepared any specific scheme for the development of plantation crops and horticulture in India.

### Statement

#### Main features of the Kerala Agricultural Development Project (KADP)

The KADP has its main objective the improvement in productivity of major foreign exchange earning tree crops and pepper, with emphasis on improving the economic status of the small holder farmer. This Project is being implemented from 1977-78 and will be spread over a period of 7 years. The following are the project components:-

- (i) New planting of high yielding coconut—5 000 ha in Cannanore, Kozhikode and Malappuram Districts;
- (ii) Rehabilitation of coconut, including replanting of senile and unproductive trees—30,000

ha. in areas free of root wilt disease in Cannanore, Kozhikode, Malappuram and Trivandrum Districts;

- (iii) provision of minor irrigation facilities in project coconut areas—1,000 ha in new planting areas, and 7,500 ha in rehabilitation areas;
- (iv) intercropping in coconut areas—26,500 ha of various garden crops without irrigation; about 3,000 ha of cocoa, about 3,000 ha of fodder for dairy cattle and about 2,500 ha of other crops with irrigation;
- (v) rehabilitation, including replanting of pepper—10,000 ha in Cannanore, Idukki and Kottayam Districts;
- (vi) rehabilitation of State-owned cashew plantation of 2,280 ha and new plantings of 1,470 ha in Cannanore District;
- (vii) establishment of about 435 ha of seed gardens for coconut, cashewnut, cocoa and spices;
- (viii) establishment of ten crumb rubber factories (nine new and one expansion) each of 10 ton/day capacity;
- (ix) strengthening of research by CPCRI, AUK and IRB, and training and technical assistance; and
- (x) provision of improved extension service and investment credit facilities for project participants.

### Abbreviations

CPCRI—Central Plantation Crops Research Institute.

AUK—Agricultural University of Kerala.

IRB—Indian Rubber Board.

### Statement II

#### Main features of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticulture Project

Jammu and Kashmir Horticulture Project comprises the following features:—

The Project would be carried out over six years and would help Government of Jammu and Kashmir (GOJK) provide facilities and services for apple and walnut grading, packing, processing and marketing in Baramulla, Srinagar and Anantnag Districts through a horticulture Corporation. Project activities would offer growers an alternative market channel for apples and walnuts to that provided by the traditional trade, which should result in lower marketing costs, reduction in the seasonal apple glut, improvements in fruit quality and utilisation of apple culls, which are at present wast. The project would also reduce walnut spoilage, improve quality of unshelled nuts and kernels and help Department of Agriculture (DA) solve problems which are preventing expansion of the small but promising J&K mushroom industry. The project should benefit small farmers in particular, who presently are prone to exploitation by larger growers and merchants. The following are the project components:—

- (a) For apples 25 apple grading and packing centres, of which ten of 6,000 tons capacity and 15 of 1,000 tons; 17,000 tons cold storage; ten saw mills attached to the larger grading and packing centres to produce fruit containers; a fruit transshipment centre; and a 12,000 tons apples per year capacity juice processing plant;
- (b) for walnuts. 14 hulling/drying and packing centres, of which one 2,000 tons capacity, one 1,000 tons capacity and twelve 500 tons capacity; and

a 4,000 tons a year processing centre to deal mainly with nuts for export;

- (c) for mushrooms, improved spawn production and research facilities;
- (d) Rs. 20 million seasonal credit to help growers meet fruit production and harvesting expenses;
- (e) Specialized cold storage, laboratory and library facilities to enable Department of Horticulture (DH) to conduct post-harvest trials with fruit;
- (f) three studies to improve apple, walnut and apple juice marketing, and a project evaluation study; and
- (g) 90 man months consultants' time and 62 man months of overseas training to support design and operation of project facilities and to help DH and DA improve fruit and mushroom production.

**Time lag between collection of Data of cost of production and utilisation by A.P.C.**

78. SHRI L. L. KAPOOR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is time lag of three to four years between the collection of data of cost of production and their utilisation by the Agricultural Prices Commission;

(b) if so, whether APC updates the data so collected before it uses them for recommending the statutory price of raw jute or other agricultural commodities; and

(c) whether the cost of production as arrived at by APC reflects the true cost of production in view of constant rise in prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) Estimates of cost of production in respect of different crops made available to the Agricultural Prices Commission by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation under the Comprehensive Scheme for Studying the cost of Cultivation of Principal Crops relate to a past year.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In view of (a) above, some allowance is made for possible changes that might have subsequently occurred therein by taking into account the likely variations in input prices during that period.

**Increase in Sugar quota for Delhi**

79. SHRI ARJUN SINGH BHADORIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Administration has asked for increase in the quota of the sugar for Delhi as the population has increased; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter on the representation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Delhi Administration had been getting a monthly sugar quota of 5,304 tonnes from June, 1976 onwards. On 27th October, 1977 it was decided to allot the quotas to the States on population basis and to ensure similarity of treatment for distribution to the urban and rural population. Accordingly, keeping in view the availability position, the State-wise monthly sugar quotas were re-fixed with reference to the projected population as on 1-4-1978 ensuring 425 grams of monthly per capita availability with