

controlled by Government but are determined by the Company. The price structure of the Company has been studied by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices. The Company has clarified that it had adjusted its prices to offset the increase in manufacturing cost, including the steep increase in the price of silver.

### Coir Industry in Kerala

1043. SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Kerala has forwarded a scheme to the Union Government sometime in February, 1979 for the development of Coir Industry in the State for approval and financial assistance from the Government of India;

(b) whether Government of India has been requested to release an amount of Rs. 659.21 lakhs for implementing the scheme during the current year; and

(c) if so, what are the details and Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA):

(a) to (c). The Government of Kerala have sent a scheme for development of Coir Industry during the five year period 1978-79 to 1982-83, involving an outlay of Rs 61.62 crores consisting of Rs. 24.24 crores as assistance from the Centre, Rs. 32.38 crores as institutional finance and Rs. 5 crores as the State Government's contribution under the plan. The scheme aims at organizing of 600 new primary co-operative societies, 10 manufacturing societies, one Marketing Federation, opening of sales depots, financial assistance to Kerala State Coir Corporation, undertaking welfare measures etc.

The Government constituted a High Level Study Team on Coir Industry under the Chairmanship of Shri B. Sivaraman, Member, Planning Com-

mission to suggest suitable measures for overcoming the problems and for a rapid and healthy development of industry. The Team has submitted its report and its various recommendations are under consideration of the Government.

The development/restructuring of the coir industry is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments under their respective Plan Schemes. The quantum of Central assistance will depend on the decisions taken on the recommendations of the Study Team.

### Names of the Less Developed States

1045. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the less developed States in the country;

(b) the details of the present system of allocation of Central fund for the development of the States;

(c) whether Government are considering to bring some changes in this respect for the development of less-developed States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) For the purpose of allocation of Central Assistance for the State Plans, the following States are treated as less developed States:

(i) States whose per capita income is below the national average:

Andhra Pradesh  
Bihar  
Madhya Pradesh  
Orissa  
Rajasthan  
Uttar Pradesh

(ii) Special categories States:

Assam  
Himachal Pradesh  
Jammu & Kashmir  
Manipur