

labour cooperative societies within a time-bound programme to undertake all forestry programme in tribal areas replacing the contractors and intermediaries.

5. The institution of forest villages should be abolished and steps should be taken to convert them to revenue villages.

6. Till such time the forest villages are converted to revenue villages, the obligation of forest villagers to provide compulsory labour by each family for forestry works should be replaced by specific contractual obligations.

7. Development of forests in tribal areas, instead of being planned in isolation, should form an integral part of the comprehensive plans of the integrated tribal development areas. The need of the local economy should get the highest priority in such forestry programmes.

8. In the plantation of species for industrial and commercial use, a mixture of species which may yield fodder, fruit or minor forest produce should be introduced.

9. A cadre of forest officers, properly trained and weeded to the principle of tribal development, should be built up in the Forest Departments and deployed in tribal areas.

10. Selected forest officers should be appointed as Project Administrators in selected Integrated Tribal Development Projects, where it is envisaged to plan for forestry oriented economy.

11. Specific organisation should be created in the Department of Agriculture at the Centre and Department of Forests in the States to plan and monitor forestry development projects in line with decisions indicated earlier and to keep close and constant liaison with other Central Ministers and State Departments.

Coconut Plantation on Coastal Areas in Tamil Nadu

5721. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the details of steps taken to utilise the coastal areas in Tamil Nadu for coconut plantations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): The following steps are being taken by the State Government of Tamil Nadu to utilise the coastal areas for coconut plantations:

(i) A scheme for settlement of repatriates from Sri Lanka and Burma and also of landless persons had been implemented in the coastal areas of East Ramnad District. Under this scheme, an area of 850 hectares of coconut plantations had been raised.

(ii) Out of 24 coconut nurseries established in Tamil Nadu, 13 are situated in the coastal districts of Chingleput, South Arcot, Thanjavur, Ramnad, Thirunelveli and Kanyakumari. A major quantity of 7.84 lakh Tall seedlings distributed in 1979-80 from these nurseries have benefited the growers in the coastal area of these districts. It has been programmed to distribute 10.5 lakh coconut seedlings in these coastal districts during 1980-81.

(iii) It is estimated that the area under coconut has increased from 51,000 hectares in 1974-75 to 55,000 hectares in 1976-77 mainly in the coastal areas of these six districts referred in para (ii). The area is expected to have increased further in the succeeding years.

Noise Pollution in the Capital

5722. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the noise pollution in the Capital is fast becoming the despair of environmentalists;