

ING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (e) The relevant information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Allotment of Plots to Members of Sarva Hitkari Cooperative House Building Society

10283. SHRI HIRALAL R. PARMAR : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4785 on 26 March, 1984 assuring that the Registrar, Co-operative Societies would "soon" give his verdict on the allotment of plots to members of Sarva Hitkari Co-operative House Building Society as per the Supreme Court directive of 6 September, 1983 and state :

(a) whether the Registrar, Co-operative Societies has since given his verdict;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the precise reasons for delay and by what date the members can expect a decision in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS, IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) No.

(c) The Registrar, Cooperative Societies Delhi has reported that the scrutiny of cases for allotment requires detailed examination of the records of demand and payments extending over a period of 20 years in respect of 191 members. Besides reasonable opportunity has also to be given to every member to explain his position. The Registrar, is making efforts to finalize the list expeditiously.

Cocoa Processing Centres

10284. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are cocoa processing centres in the country and whether there is any system of procuring cocoa from the growers at a support price when the price goes down; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to make arrangements for procuring cocoa from the growers at support price and process it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir. There are cocoa processing centres operated by Industrial Manufacturers and also by Co-operatives. There is no system of procuring cocoa at support price. However Government of Karnataka is giving subsidy @ Re. 1 per kg of wet beans to the cocoa growers.

(b) No such proposal is presently under consideration.

Area under Cocoa Cultivation

10285. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area under cocoa cultivation in the country and the total annual production thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the cocoa growers are not getting a remunerative price for their produce; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to ensure a remunerative price to cocoa growers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Cocoa being a non-forecast crop, exact data regarding area and production of the crop are not available. However, the estimated area under cocoa and production thereof in major Cocoa-growing States in 1982-83 was 28,274 hectares and 3,000 tonnes of dry beans respectively.

(b) and (c) Government have no reports regarding any problem of prices of cocoa. Cocoa is not among the crops for which the Government fixes minimum support price. However, in order to ensure that the cocoa growers get reasonable prices, a number of measures have already been taken to protect the interests of cocoa growers. These measures include :

- (i) To increase the domestic consumption of cocoa beans thereby improving the prices, the Government have been making efforts to establish more indigenous cocoa processing units;
- (ii) Government is extending financial assistance to the Cooperative Societies for installation of artificial dryers.
- (iii) Government of Karnataka is giving subsidy @ Re. 1/- per kg of wet beans to the cocoa growers;
- (iv) The State Governments of Kerala and Karnataka have been promoting the procurement of the cocoa beans by opening procurement centres in Cooperative Sector; and
- (v) The Government of Kerala have provided financial assistance to the Cooperative Societies @ Re. 1.5 lakhs for setting up fermentation and drying units.

Admissions to Kerala Agriculture University from other University

10286. PROP. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kerala Agriculture University has decided not to allow admissions to students from other Universities who have undergone three years degree course;

(b) If so, the rationals of this decision and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to get this decision changed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir. It has been brought to the notice of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, that the Kerala Agricultural University has decided that the three years B.Sc. (Agri) degree (10+3 or 10+2+3 or 11+3 pattern) offered by other Agricultural Universities or traditional Universities in India are not being recognised for recruitment for higher studies in Kerala Agricultural University from 8.9.1983 onwards.

(b) In the opinion of the University, the syllabi of the three years B.Sc. (Agri) degree programme are not comparable with the 4 years B.Sc. (Agri) programme from the point of view of content and time really taken for the teaching. The Deans' Committee appointed by Indian Council of Agricultural Research also has suggested a curricula of 5 years duration for the B.Sc. (Agri) programme after the 10+2 stage.

(c) The Agricultural Universities recognise the degree offered by other Universities mutually, based on the standard of academic programmes offered by them. Since this is an inter-university matter, it has been decided to request the Indian Agricultural Universities' Association to consider the decision of the Kerala Agricultural Universities.

Central Cattle Breeding Farm

10287. SHRI B.D. SINGH : Will the Minister of the AGRICULTURE be placed to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 8401 on 25 April, 1984 regarding Central Cattle Breeding Farms and state :