

**Restriction on Private Sector to Purchase of Rice in Kerala**

3271. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has restricted the purchase of rice through Civil Supplies Corporation of State Government ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ;

(c) whether any restriction has been imposed on the private sector in purchasing and selling rice or other essential commodities ;

(d) whether Kerala Government have registered objection in this matter ; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (DR. M.S. SANJEEVI RAO) : (a) and (b). The State Governments or other agencies are required to obtain prior approval of the Central Government for inter-State purchase of rice on State Government account. This is considered necessary as large scale purchase of rice by State Government/agencies may affect market availability and prices in the surplus States and also procurement for the Central Pool.

(c) Movement of levy free rice and wheat on trade account is free within the country.

(d) and (e). On a request from the Kerala Government, they were permitted to purchase 40,000 tonnes of rice from Madhya Pradesh during 1983-84 Kharif marketing season. The State Government, represented for permission to allow them to purchase this quantity from Andhra Pradesh. After a review of supply and demand conditions of surplus States, bulk purchase by Kerala Government from Andhra Pradesh was not considered desirable and the State Government was advised to purchase the permitted quantity from Madhya Pradesh.

**Scheme for Production and Distribution of Quality Coconut Seedling**

3272. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government have any scheme for production and distribution of quality coconut seedlings ;

(b) the agency entrusted with the work and assistance given for production and distribution of the seedlings ; and

(c) whether Kerala has put forward a proposal for the Centrally sponsored scheme in this regard and if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). The Central Government have sanctioned the following schemes for the production of quality coconut seedlings. The schemes are implemented through the State Governments and Union Territories.

Name of the Scheme	Name of State and Union Territories	Total amount sanctioned for 1984-85 (Rs. in lakh)
1	2	3
<b>1. Centrally Sponsored Schemes :</b>		
(i) Production and distribution of TxD hybrid seedlings.	Kerala	2.826
	Karnataka	2.736
	Tamil Nadu	0.562
	Andhra Pradesh	0.423
	Orissa	2.480
	<b>Total ;</b>	<b>9.027</b>