

(b) if so, the quantity of deposits that may be available in that area ; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken to exploit this source of lignite ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b). As a result of investigations carried out by the Geological Survey of India, a total of about 19.5 crore tonnes of lignite has been estimated in six localities of Kutch district. Out of this, about 13.5 crore tonnes is in shape of seams of individual thickness of more than one metre.

(c) The Gujarat Minerals Development Corporation a State enterprise, have carried out pilot quarrying in the main deposit at Panandhro and collected 100 tonnes of bulk sample in collaboration with the Central Fuel Research Institute, Jealgora. The Central Fuel Research Institute have carried out briquetting tests for Kutch lignite and have taken up the work of preparing a techno-economic feasibility report for the exploitation of this lignite.

Project for Improvement of Tubar Crop in Salem, Tamil Nadu

3660. **SHRI BHUVARAHAN :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is any proposal to start an all India Coordinated project for improvement of Tubar crops especially of tapioca in Salem District in Tamil Nadu ; and

(b) if so, how much amount has been set apart for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHIB P. SHINDE) : (a) An All-

India Coordinated Project for Research on Tubar Crops has been sanctioned by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research at an estimated cost of Rs. 9.20 lakhs during the 4th plan period. It has 4 Centres and sub-Centres besides the Project Coordinator's Centre at the Central Tubar Crops Research Institute, Trivendrum. One of these Sub-Centres is located at Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu State. The other Centres/ Sub-Centres are located one each in the States of Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Assam.

There is no proposal to start any other Centre in Tamil Nadu State.

(b) Does not arise

Effect of Super Bazars in Stabilising of Prices

3661 **SHRI RAJDEO SINGH :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state .

(a) whether Government are satisfied with the working of Super Bazars in Delhi and in other big towns,

(b) whether the experiment of Super Bazar has contributed to the stability of the prices ; and

(c) whether Government are contemplating to liquidate this experiment or extend it to other towns and cities in the country ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA) : (a) The performance of Cooperative Department Stores (Super Bazars) differs from one institution to another. While some institutions have done well, others have not been working efficiently and have incurred losses. Measures for streamlining and improving their business and operational efficiency