

Education, including University Education, being a State subject, the first three items come under the normal responsibility of the State Government. As regards the fourth item, the proposal is under consideration.

Setting up of an Office of Freight Investigation Bureau at Cochin

57. SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT:

SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT

be pleased to refer to the answer given to Question No. 3743 on the 28th August, 1972 regarding a proposal for setting up an Office of the Freight Investigation Bureau at Cochin and to state.

- (a) whether a final decision in the matter has now been taken; and
(b) if so, the cause of the delay?

THE MINISTER PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR):

(a) and (b): The matter is still under consideration of the Government of India and a decision is expected to be taken shortly.

Sanction of package programme for coconut in Kerala

58. SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT:

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the scheme submitted by the Government of Kerala for Package Programme for Coconut has

been sanctioned by the Central Government; and

(b) if not, when it is likely to be accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):

(a) No sir.

(b) The scheme is likely to be sanctioned during the current financial year.

Inclusion of scheme on oil palm in Kerala under Central Sector Project

59. SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT:

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 1124 dated 7th August, 1972 regarding the implementation of the scheme on oil palm in Kerala and state:

(a) whether a final decision to include the scheme under Central Sector Project has been taken; and

(b) if not, the reason for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):

(a) No, sir.

(b) The details are being worked out.

Crop Insurance Scheme

60. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM:

SHRI P. VENKATASUBAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether no final decision has yet been taken on the proposal to introduce scheme of crop insurance; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in taking a decision on the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). The Life Insurance Corporation of India is implementing a pilot experimental scheme of voluntary crop insurance for Hybrid-4 cotton, in collaboration with the Gujarat State Fertilizer Company, in Gujarat. After taking into consideration the different aspects, Government have decided that the General Insurance Corporation, when set up, would be requested to implement pilot experiments on the same lines as in Gujarat in respect of selected crops in a few selected areas.

Decline in Sugar Production and Shrinkage in the Acreage of sugarcane Cultivation

61. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the acreage under sugarcane cultivation has shrunked in the last few years;

(b) whether this has led to a decline in sugar production; and

(c) if so, the extent of decline registered in the production of sugar in the last five years as a result of the shrinkage in the acreage under sugar cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE).—(a) Area under sugarcane in the country registered an increase during 1968-69 and 1969-70 in comparison with 1967-68; there was a decline in area during 1970-71 and 1971-72; again during 1972-73 some increase in area is reported as per preliminary estimates. The relevant estimates are given below:

(Million hectares)
All-India estimates of area under sugarcane.

1967-68	2.05
1968-69	2.53
1969-70	2.75
1970-71	2.62
1971-72	2.42
Increase in 1972-73 over 1971-72 as per 1st estimates	4.7%

(b) and (c). Production of sugar also showed an increase during 1968-69 and 1969-70 and a decline during 1970-71 and 1971-72. For 1972-73, estimates of production are not yet available, since crushing of cane has just commenced. Production during the years 1967-68 to 1971-72 was as follows:—

Production of sugar in India
Production (Lakh tonnes)

Year	
1967-68	22.48
1968-69	35.59
1969-70	42.62
1970-71	37.40
1971-72	31.10

राज्य फार्म निगम द्वारा विभिन्न राज्यों में फार्मों की स्थापना

62. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय : क्या कृषि मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :