

and documents for the Assessment Years 1970-71 to 1973-74. Books of accounts and documents of National Agro Industrial Corporation are in the custody of the Central Bureau of Investigation. The Income-tax Department is taking necessary action to examine the documents in the custody of C.B.I. and to finalise assessments after conducting necessary enquiries. Action as called for under the law will be taken after the investigations are concluded.

**E.C.A.F.E. Meeting held at New Delhi**

8286. **SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:**  
**SHRI DHAMANKAR:**

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East met on the 27th March, 1974 at New Delhi;

(b) if so, what were the subjects discussed; and

(c) the decisions arrived at?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C. GEORGE):** (a) The 30th Session of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) was held in Colombo (Sri Lanka) from 27th March to 6th April, 1974.

(b) The Agenda for the Session is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6838/74].

(c) A statement containing the gist of the resolutions and some of the more important conclusions, decisions and recommendations is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6838/1]

**Plan to boost export of fruits**

8287. **SHRI DHAMANKAR:**

**SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU:**

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Horticultural Development Council met in Delhi to formulate a plan to boost the export of fruits like banana, apple, mango, citrus fruits and also onions and other items; and

(b) if so, the outcome of this meeting?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C. GEORGE):** (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Certain Centrally Sponsored Schemes on horticulture development mainly for export purposes have been recommended by this Council for implementation during the Fifth Five Year Plan

**Cyclone warning system and maritime rescue measures**

8288. **SHRI P. GANGADEB:**  
**SHRI RAGHUNANDANLAL BHATIA:**

Will the Minister of **TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to improve the cyclone warning system and maritime rescue measures; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Steps have been taken to improve the cyclone warning system along the east coast by installing four cyclone warning radars at Calcutta, Paradeep, Vishakhapatnam and Madras. Four more such radars are proposed to be installed at Masulipatnam and Karaikal on the east coast and Bombay and Goa on the west coast. Satellite monitoring stations have

set up at the cyclone warning centres at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay with the help of these modern scientific aids, it will be possible to issue accurate warning to ships at sea and the public in the coastal areas.

All air/sea search and rescue operations around the coast are conducted under the overall direction of the Air Force by their aircraft, aircraft under the control of the Civil Aviation Department, ships of the Indian Navy and merchant ships present in the vicinity.

**Advisory Council to help small planners**

2289. SHRI K. MALLANNA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agricultural Refinance Corporation had decided to constitute an advisory council with a view to helping the small planners;

(b) whether the recommendations of the working group on finance for tea industry have also been accepted; and

(c) if so, the salient features regarding these recommendations and whether they will be applicable to all the plantation crops?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Presumably the reference is to small planters.

Yes, Sir; the Agricultural Refinance Corporation has set up an Informal Advisory Committee comprising representatives of Commodity Boards, Government of India, State Governments of Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, commercial banks, land

development banks and non-official organisations like United Planters Association of Southern India. The Corporation proposes to set up similar units for other areas also.

(b) and (c). The information is contained in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

The major recommendations of the Working Group on Finance for Tea Industry set up in September, 1971 by the Reserve Bank of India, relating to the Agricultural Refinance Corporation and action taken thereon were as under:

(1) The Working Group had recommended the adoption of a consortium arrangement for parties, who experienced difficulties in meeting security requirements of the institutions providing different types of credit. The tea Estate would form a common security by way of equitable mortgage for all the lending institutions which provide term finance and working finance on a pari passu basis. Where one of the participating institutions is not eligible for refinance, the Agricultural Refinance Corporation should have no objection to sharing the security with that institution.

The Agricultural Refinance Corporation has agreed to this recommendation. It has as a matter of policy, decided that it would not insist on any security for refinance provided to the licensed scheduled commercial banks, depending upon the merits of each case. This relaxation would be applicable to tea plantations also.

(2) The Agricultural Refinance Corporation should provide 80 to 94 per cent refinance and in deserving cases even upto 100 per cent of the development loans extended. State Financial Corporation could be made eligible for refinance assistance from Agricultural Refinance Corporation.