

Handicrafts Corporation in Kerala1993. **Shri Warier:****Shri Vasudevan Nair:**

Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala propose to set up a Handicrafts Corporation to function as a Central Marketing Organisation of handicrafts;

(b) whether the Central Government have any proposal to disband the "Kerala State Handicrafts Apex Co-operative Society"; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao):

(a) Government of India are not aware of any such proposal.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Japanese Power-Tillers

1994. **Shri Ram Swarup:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to import Japanese power-tillers with air-cooled 8-10 H.P. diesel engine found suitable for both tilling and pumping water from wells for irrigation purposes;

(b) if so, the total number to be imported; and

(c) their allotment, State-wise?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) 867 machines.

(c) Keeping in view the requests received, the allocation of these machines between the State Govern-

ments and the Institutions is as under:—

Name of State	Nos.
Assam	40
Gujarat	70
Himachal Pradesh	40
Maharashtra	20
Nagaland	4
Orissa	136
Punjab	30
Rajasthan	3
Tripura	5
Uttar Pradesh	70
West Bengal	137
Tractor Training Centre, Hissar.	2
Agri. University, Jabalpur.	10
TOTAL:	667

In addition, 300 machines are being imported for stock and sale in Mysore, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and Madras.

Transport to Assam1995. **Shri P. C. Borooah:****Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam have informed the Centre that under the present rail-cum-road and rail-cum-river transport arrangements, freight rates to Assam have increased further and this has caused the State to bear extra expenditure by about 10 crores of rupees annually;

(b) if so, reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to give relief to the State?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). No com-