

*[Translation]***Regularisation of Encroachments on Forest Land**3184. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL :
SHRI BUDHSEN PATEL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh had sent proposals for regularisation of encroachments on forest land;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such proposals lying pending with the Central Government; and

(d) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) Three proposals have been received from Government of Madhya Pradesh for regularisation under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of encroachments on forest land. The status of these proposals is as under:—

S. No.	Name of State	District	Area(ha.)	Present status
1.	Madhya Pradesh	All districts	1,03,000.000	State Government had submitted proposal for diversion of 2.73 lakhs ha. of forest land. Approval for diversion of 1.03 lakh ha. was accorded in July, 1990 in favour of encroachers found eligible as per eligibility criteria fixed by State Govt.
2.	Madhya Pradesh	All districts	1,77,938.431	Proposals are under process.
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Khargone	3,773.349	

(d) Expeditious action is taken by the Ministry to decide the proposals on merits after complete details and site inspection reports are received in the Ministry.

*[English]***Production of Coconut in Kerala**3185. PROF. P.J. KURIEN :
SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of coconut produced per hectare during each of the last three years in the country, State-wise;

(b) the ample production of coconut in Kerala in comparison to other States, State-wise;

(c) whether the production of coconut is declining year by year in Kerala;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala to fix the minimum support price of coconut/copra;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not, the reasons therefor;

(h) whether the Coconut Development Board has made any plan to promote coconut cultivation and increase its production in the country particularly in Kerala, and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d) The average production of coconut in India per hectare was 7324, 7760 & 7779 nuts during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively. Kerala is leading State in Coconut production and it is not declining. The State-wise details are given in the Statement attached.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The minimum support price was asked for Rs. 5000.00 per quintal for Coconut. The