

New Products Derived from Rice

8109 SHRI SHANTARAM POTKUKHE Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether at present several new products prepared from rice viz., edible oil, non-edible oil, cattle feed, a highly expensive aldehyde called furfural with vast export potential are forging new agro-industry linkages,

(b) if so, whether any long-term plan has been or is being prepared for launching of a network of such small-scale agro-industries in the various rice growing States,

(c) if so, its broad features and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA) (a) to (d) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha

Freedom Fighters from Goa

8110 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of persons receiving Central Freedom Fighters Pension for participating in the Goa Liberation struggle?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) Statistics are being maintained State/Union Territory-wise and not struggle/movement wise 872 freedom fighters, who applied through Government of Goa, are receiving Central pension

STD Facility in P.C.O. in each Taluk

8111. DR. VENKATESH KABDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ministry propose to provide STD facility at every Taluk (or Tehsil) level in PCO;

(b) if so, the time by which this work will be completed, and

(c) the hurdles in achieving this objective and the estimate of expenditure for this kind of expansion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) (a) No, Sir During the Eighth Five Year Plan no specific policy has been formulated to extend STD, PCO's to all Taluk Headquarters

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise in view of (a) above

Recognition to Travel Agents to Deal with Passport Offices

8112 SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether a large number of applications for grant of recognition to the Travel Agents to deal with the Passport Offices are pending for clearance, and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in granting the recognition?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. GUJRAL) (a) Information is being collected

(b) Before grant of recognition each application has to be scrutinised to ensure