

**Procurement of Copra**

8148. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the agencies engaged in the procurement of copra on behalf of NAFED;

(b) the quantity of copra procured so far in this year;

(c) the amount earmarked for procurement of copra by NAFED this year;

(d) whether NAFED had made any profit during the earlier operations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA):

(a) During 1990 Copra Marketing season, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) has been appointed as Central Nodal Agency to make purchases of copra on behalf of the Central Government. The following agencies have been nominated by the State Government to make purchases on behalf of NAFED:

1. Kerala: (i) Kerala State Coconut Growers Federation Ltd., Trivandrum (ii) Kerala State Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd., Cochin.
2. Karnataka: (iii) Karnataka State Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd., Bangalore.
3. Lakshadweep: (iv) Lakshadweep Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd., Calicut.
4. Andaman & Nicobar Islands: (v)

Andaman & Nicobar Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd., Port Blair.

(b) A quantity of 9435 MTs of Copra Upto 4.5.1990 has been purchased by NAFED.

(c) Procurement of copra under the scheme will be continued at the declared support price so long as stocks are offered and as such no target is earmarked for it.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**Setting up of a Hindi Training Institute in Cochin**

8149. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is proposal to set up a Hindi Training Institute in Cochin; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). There is no proposal at present to set up a sub-centre of the Central Hindi Training Institute at Cochin.

**Posts of High Commissioners/Ambassadors Lying Vacant**

8150. SHRIRAMESHCHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of posts of High Commissioner and Ambassadors lying vacant at present?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): A total of 6 posts of High Commissioner/Ambassadors

are lying vacant at present.

**RMS Sorting office in Kerala**

8151. SHRIRAMESHCHEENITHALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any move for abolishing of 3 RMS sorting offices in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Department is not award of any such proposal.

(b) Does not arise

[*Translation*]

**Jeeps/Cars and Trucks Purchased by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited**

8152. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jeeps/cars and trucks purchased during the last three years for official use by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited and various departments under the General Manager, (Maintenance), New Delhi and annual expenditure incurred on their purchase and maintenance; and

(b) the average annual expenditure incurred on payment of rental for such hired vehicles and cars used departments in Delhi and Bombay respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Regularisation of Daily Wage Workers**

8153. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court had directed on 27 October, 1987 on petition no. 373/86 to his Ministry to formulate a scheme within eight months for regularising part time workers/daily wagers working for more than one year; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The Supreme Court had directed this Ministry on 27 October 1987 on petition No. 373/86 "to prepare a scheme on a rational basis for absorbing as far as possible the casual labourers who have been continuously working for more than one year in the Posts and Telegraphs Department" within eight months.

(b) In compliance with direction of the Supreme Court, "casual labourers (Grant of Temporary status and regularisation) Scheme, 1989" of the Department of Telecom, was formulated within the extended time-schedule permitted by the Supreme Court.

As regards the Department of Posts a similar scheme prepared has been referred to other concerned Departments/ Ministries for concurrence.

[*English*]

**Residential Accommodation for Fishermen of Kanyakumari District (Tamil Nadu)**

8154. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: