

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No comprehensive survey has been conducted to assess the amount required for rehabilitation of coconut Plantation in Kerala

(b) The amount of assistance given to Kerala Government by Government of India under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for rehabilitation and extension of coconut plantation for 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 are Rs 18.87 lakh, Rs 13.08 lakh and Rs. 14.14 lakh respectively. Besides, on account of floods in 1982-83 a ceiling of assistance of Rs. 6 lakh was sanctioned towards cost of seedlings for new planting in place of damaged crops including coconut. During 1983-84 drought an amount of Rs. 49 lakh as Central Government's share was provided through Coconut Development Board.

(c) During the last three years 85,000 hectares of coconut plantation were rejuvenated by removing disease affected and uneconomic palms and planting with quality seedlings.

Appointment of a Commission for Agricultural Pricing Policy

*76. **SHRI B.V. DESAI :**

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to appoint a commission to take a fresh look at the agricultural pricing policy ;

(b) whether the representatives of agricultural community recently met the Minister and pleaded for regulated agricultural markets and more for incentives to export agricultural products ;

(c) if so, by what time Government are likely to appoint such a commission ; and

(d) what will be its main objectives and functions ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) There is no such proposal. However, all factors are taken into

account by the Government in fixing the prices of agricultural commodities.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The question does not arise.

Lay-Off Retrenchment in Jute Industry in West Bengal

*77. **SHRI AMAL DATTA :** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the jute industry in West Bengal is going for a massive lay-off and retrenchment ;

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

(c) whether Government have any proposal to save the workers and employees from retrenchment ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAI AH): (a) and (b) According to information received from the West Bengal Government, they have no information in the matter of the Jute Industry resorting to massive lay-off and retrenchment. No Jute Mill has applied for permission either to lay-off or retrench workers and no such permission has been given to any of them.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

ICAR's Findings on Bhopal Gas Leakage

*78. **SHRI PIYUSH TIRAKY :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to stated :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the findings of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research on effects of gas leakage ;