

(a) the names of agricultural commodities and other commodities of which prices are fixed by the Agricultural Prices Commission ;

(b) the names of the present members of the Commission and how they are selected;

(c) what are the methods adopted for fixing the prices ; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to add some more items for the purpose of fixation of prices by the Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The Agricultural Prices Commission (APC) is a recommendatory body and does not fix the procurement/support prices. These are fixed by the Government. The Commission has been advising the Government on the price policy for agricultural commodities particularly paddy, wheat, jowar, bajra, maize, ragi, barley, gram, arhar, moong, urad, sugarcane, groundnut, sunflower, seed, soyabean, rapeseed and mustard, cotton, jute and tobacco.

(b) The Commission, at present consists of the Chairman, two members and a member-secretary. Their names are as under :

1. Prof. Yoginder K. Alagh, Chairman
2. Chaudhri Randhir Singh, Member
3. Dr. M.V. George, Member
4. Dr. T.N. Dhar, Member-Secretary.

The posts of Chairman and members of the APC are filled keeping in view the broad guidelines given by the Secretaries Committee and the recommendation of the National Commission on Agriculture.

(c) The Government fixes the procurement/support prices on the basis of the recommendations made by the APC and also after taking into account the views expressed by the concerned economic Ministries and the Planning Commission. In the

case of cereals the views of the State Governments are also ascertained.

(d) No, Sir. However, under the terms of reference of the Commission, the Government may refer to it any agricultural commodity for giving advice on price policy.

### मगीरथी परियोजना का शाहदरा जल शोधक संयन्त्र

\*675. श्री चन्द्रपाल शैलानी : क्या निर्माण और आवास मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि मगीरथी परियोजना के शाहदरा जल शोधन संयन्त्र से लाभान्वित होने वाली दिल्ली और नई दिल्ली की कालोनियों के नाम और संख्या क्या हैं ?

संसदीय कार्य, खेल तथा निर्माण और आवास मंत्री (श्री ब्रूटा सिंह) : दिल्ली जलपूर्ति एवं मल व्ययन संस्थान के अनुसार मगीरथी परियोजना का शाहदरा जल शोधन संयन्त्र तत्त्वतः यमुना-पार क्षेत्र तथा दक्षिण दिल्ली की कालोनियों की आवश्यकताएँ पूरी करने के लिये है। इस संयंत्र से जल की कुछ मात्रा अन्य क्षेत्रों की पूर्ति करने वाली वर्तमान प्रणाली को भी भेजी जाएगी।

### Mycoplasma a cause of Coconut Wilt Disease

\*676. SHRI HARISH KUMAR GANGWAR :  
PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mycoplasma is now established to be the cause for coconut wilt disease;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Mycoplasma was first identified as a cause of a similar disease in Jamaica;

(c) whether Indian scientists at Kasargod were unable to find solutions for this disease due to non-availability of Electron Microscope

(d) whether the recent findings were

established by the Electron Microscope now provided by ICAR at Kasargod ; and

(e) whether Electron Microscope was not provided by ICAR due to paucity of funds or neglect whereas during last three years ICAR had been surrendering huge funds ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE :  
(RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. Mycoplasma Like Organisms (MLOs) have been noticed consistently in the tis ues of the diseased plams only, but not in the tissues of healthy palms. This observation is highly significant. However, pathogenicity trials and transmission studies are also required to prove that MLOs are the causative organisms of the coconut (root) wilt disease.

(b) It is a fact that Mycoplasma was first identified as a cause of the lethal yellowing disease of coconut in Jamaica, but the symptoms of the disease are considerably different from those of coconut (root) wilt disease in Kerala.

(c) No, Sir. The non-availability of Electron Microscope did not stand in the way of the Scientists at Kasargo din investigating into the causes of the disease. As regards the solution to the disease problem, even while the scientists have been engaged in identifying the casual organism, they have developed a package of practices which are effective in reducing losses due to this disease.

(d) No, Sir. The recent findings were identified through the Electron Microscopes available at the ICAR Cotton Technological Research Laboratory in Bombay, the Christian Medical College at Vellore and the Institute for Pflanzen-krankheiten, Bonn in West Germany.

(e) The Council did not reject any proposal of Central Plantation Crops Research Institute for an Electron Microscope at any stage nor there has been any neglect in this matter. In fact the Council has provided the necessary funds to CPCRI for

this equipment. An Electron Microscope has already been purchased by the CPCRI and steps have been taken for its installation and operation.

**Allotment by DDA of 25 Shops to A Person Under Fictitious Names**

\*677. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI SURAJ BHAN :

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a press report (Times of India October 6, 1982) that an illiterate but influential person had managed to get possession of 25 shops from D.D.A. under fictitious names ;

(b) particulars of the checking Inspectors who have been defaulters in these shop cases and action taken against them; and

(c) action taken against the holder of the shops under fictitious names ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BUTA SINGH) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The DDA has reported that the shops built by it are generally sold in open auction and that there is no bar on the purchase of more than one shop by a person. It has further reported that, in the absence of details, it is not possible to confirm the purchase of 25 shops by one individual. In view of this position, the DDA has also reported that the question of taking action does not arise.

**Clearance of Irrigation Projects Involving Forest Area**

\*678. SHRI KEYUR BHUSHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that development activities under irrigation have been considerably slowed down due to delay in getting clearance under the Forest Act ;