

sent by the Coconut Board ?

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY : Are you going to implement the suggestions of the Coconut Board ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Certainly. That is the purpose of setting up the Coconut Board—to devise the schemes and implement them.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. BALANANDAN : The Hon. Minister did not reply my question. That is the difficulty. My question is many schemes are pending at the doors of the Ministry of Agriculture. Will the Government see that permission will be granted for the scheme which is already sent by the Board ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : No schemes are pending with the Ministry of Agriculture. If the schemes come, some time is taken by the authorities to examine the schemes. But no unusual or unnecessary delay is caused by the officials of the Ministry of Agriculture. Whatever schemes come, we examine them. That is our intention and that is our policy to implement the schemes for the benefit of the coconut growers.

MR. SPEAKER : I am expecting that report on cotton from you ! I am still waiting for the report on cotton from you !

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : Your question will be separately dealt with !

Distribution of Land to Landless Scheduled Caste Peasants in Gujarat

*272. **SHRI R.P. GAEKWAD** : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether surplus agricultural land has been distributed to the landless Scheduled Caste peasants in Gujarat ; and

(b) if so, how much and the details thereof so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARINATHA MISRA) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Gujarat Agricultural Land Ceiling Act, 1960 as revised in the light of the national guidelines, 3638 eligible members of the Scheduled Castes have been allotted 21135 acres of land. This is about 60 per cent of the total area distributed so far.

SHRI R.P. GAEKWAD : It is very heartening to know that our unfortunate friends have been given this benefit. But, just allotting the land is not enough.

Therefore, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the people who have got the land have benefited from this allotment ?

Also, our agriculture needs to be more progressive and more agricultural land should be taken under agriculture. I would like to know whether the distribution has resulted in more production in our country ?

SHRI HARINATHA MISRA : I may respectfully point out that from no part of the question, the supplementary which the Hon. Member has put, arises. He wanted certain factual information which I had the privilege of giving.

श्री माधव रव सिन्धिया : यह कागज के आंकड़े हैं कि इतनी जमीन हरिजनों और आदिवासियों को दी गई, लेकिन लठ के बल ठाकुर साहब या पंडित जी उनको निकाल देते हैं उस जमीन पर से।

श्री हरिनाथ मिश्र : इसके बाद और आप पूछेंगे तो मैं जवाब दे दूंगा।

I respectfully say that if the Hon. Member wants any more information, and writes a letter to me, I will get full details from the office and give them.