

**THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH):** (a) and (b). There has as yet been no relaxation of the general ban on the construction of high-rise buildings, barring a few cases where, in the public interest, specific relaxation of the ban has been permitted.

(c) The safety measures which have been laid down in the existing bye-laws of the local bodies have been provided in these high-rise buildings.

**Neendakara Fishing Harbour, Kerala**

\*273 **SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government have recommended some schemes relating to the fishing harbour at Neendakara for sanction under the Centrally sponsored schemes; and

(b) the Government's decision thereon?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNA-SAHEB P SHINDE):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question regarding selection of the site is still under finalisation in consultation with the State Government. The Pre-Investment Survey of Fishing Harbour, Project of the Government of India has been requested to draw up the necessary project reports. After the project reports are received, the proposal will be examined on the basis of cost-benefit-ratio.

**Promotion of Creative Talent in Universities and Colleges**

\*274 **PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any schemes for any awards/scholarships/financial

incentive for the promotion of creative talent, like awards for budding writers, among the teaching staff and students in the universities and its colleges in various national languages of India; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme?

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S NURUL HASAN):** (a) and (b) The following schemes are being implemented by the University Grants Commission with a view to promote the creative talents in writing in Indian languages among the staff in the Universities and Colleges:

(a) Preparation of University Level Books in Indian languages by Indian Authors.

The objective of this scheme is to provide financial assistance to outstanding senior academics and research scholars in Universities and Colleges and other Institutions of higher learning and research for the preparation of high quality books, monographs and reference material for use in universities and colleges. Outstanding teachers desirous of devoting full time over a period of one or two years for writing books may take leave from their positions without any loss of seniority, increments etc UGC will pay them a sum equivalent to their salaries and allowances with provision for increments and also a contingent grant of Rs. 2,000 per annum for secretarial and other assistance. Teachers who undertake this work in addition to their normal teaching and research responsibilities, will be given the services of a junior author on a fellowship of Rs 600 per month.

(b) Scheme for National Award of prizes to Indian Authors for original standard work of University Level Books in Indian Languages.

The objective of this scheme is to promote Indian authorships in the writing of University Level Books. The authors who produce standard works or quality reading material for university studies will be awarded prizes as a mark of recognition at national level. The maximum number of prizes to be awarded will be upto 100 in a year and the value of each prize is Rs. 10,000.

The U.G.C. has recently accepted in principle a scheme of travelling fellowships, special visiting fellowships for creative writers and other artists. A detailed scheme is being worked out.

#### Forest Wealth of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

\*275. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) steps being taken to develop the under-exploited natural wealth of forest resources like timber and other

forest produce, fisheries and plantations of the Andaman and Nicobar islands;

(b) whether any forest-based industries like fisheries, plantations and cash-crops are being set up there so as to contribute to the economic development of the Islands which has been classified as a backward area; and

(c) whether it is proposed to set up a Forest Development Corporation, to utilise the vast-potential of under-exploited forest resources by undertaking massive programmes of harvesting, marketing of forest produce and for reafforestation of many areas in the Islands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNA-SAHAB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Yes, Sir.

#### Statement

Forests	Fisheries	Plantations
<p>(a) In order to develop under-exploited natural forest resources of these islands, project report for logging, marketing, forest plantations and natural regeneration in Little Andaman and North Andamans Islands to be executed by Andaman and Nicobar Islands Forest and Plantation Development Corporation Limited has been prepared and is under the active consideration of the Government.</p>	<p>An expert Group had visited the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in April, 1976 and an interim report has already been submitted by this Group. The final report is now awaited. The team has recommended development of fisheries adopting developmental approach through the Department of Fisheries, project approach with Campbell Bay as base and development through private enterprises from fairly developed bases. The proposals envisage the introduction of small, medium and large fishing vessels.</p>	<p>There is a proposal to set-up a plantation Corporation for the concerted development of coconut pepper, cinnamon, nutmeg and rubber in the Islands. The Government of India has plans to develop a project for the cultivation of red oil palm over an area of 2,400 hectares in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in a Phased manner. The Project for Red Oil Palm will also be an integral part of the Corporation.</p>