

**SHRI D. P. YADAV:** Let me confess that the value of the total number of books in our stock is approximately Rs. 76 lakhs. The sale is about Rs. 64 lakhs.

**SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI:** How is the policy regarding the selection of writers who used to write copy books for the NBT formulated? Secondly, who are the members of the Board who finally completed the work on a book published by NBT about the freedom struggle very recently? In the Bengali version of this book which I went through the relevant items concerning the freedom struggle are absolutely absent. The motive was to finally outcaste the heroic role of the revolutionaries of the country as well as the role played by INA in the freedom struggle. Who were the members of the Board who actually completed the work on the national struggle which has been published recently by NBT—I think it was published two years ago?

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN):** I require notice.

**SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYA** Has the National Book Trust any programmes of publishing those books which have gone out of print, for instance, *Hunter's Statistical Account*, *The Imperial Gazetteer* and *Fowler's Game Birds of India*? These books are simply not available. They have become rare specimens. Will NBT consider publishing such books which have become rare tracks now?

**PROF. S. NURUL HASAN:** So far as gazetteers are concerned, the House is no doubt aware that the Government of India for the last many years have started a project for the re-writing of the gazetteers and making them up-to-date. The *India Series* has been brought out. It is available in Parliament Library. With the assistance of the Government of India and through the agency of the State Governments, district gazetteers are also being brought out. In many

States, the work has been progressing very rapidly in others, it is a little slow. But we are trying to expedite the completion of this.

So far as some of the other books like *Hunter's* etc., are concerned many of these 19th century books written by various foreign authors are being reprinted by private publishers. The main purpose of NBT, as hon. Members are aware, is to promote publication of books of contemporary interest to the general reader so that at a comparatively low price and within the reach of the readers these books can be made available.

#### Coconut Disease in Kerala

**SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:**

\*85. **SHRI HARI SINGH:**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have agreed in the month of July, 1976 to assist Kerala Government financially and otherwise for fighting a special disease in the coconut trees in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and steps Government have taken to check its spread?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

I would like to add that last month the Chief Minister of Kerala discussed the problem with us. We said that the Government of India would be happy to receive a scheme. I am making this statement so that there may be no misunderstanding. We are awaiting a scheme from the Kerala Government.

**SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:** Five districts of Kerala which is the biggest coconut producing state are badly affected by the disease about which government is fully aware. The hon. Minister says that when the Kerala government submits the scheme it would be considered. There are many problems relating to coconut cultivation that are to be tackled in an integrated manner and there was a proposal to set up a coconut board. May I know at what stage is it now, so that this problem could be tackled on a national plane?

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE** The hon Member is aware that on the last occasion we discussed this problem with Members of Parliament and coconut growing states, representatives of those state governments. We referred the scheme to various state governments and I am glad to mention that most state governments particularly the southern states which are coconut growing, have favourably reacted to the proposal. The Government of India would like to process it further and if a Central Act is required, the government would have no hesitation in coming forward to the House.

**SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN** In view of the fact that coconut cultivation in Kerala requires immediately large financial assistance from the central government would the Minister be in a position to say that the government will consider favourably the scheme as soon as it is submitted by the Kerala Government?

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE** Before considering the scheme I can not say anything in advance. We will be sympathetic and we have broadly indicated that we should like to help the government of Kerala.

**SHRI B. V. NAIK** The disease of the coconut in Kerala is spreading to other west coast areas, not only for coconut but also for banana but I

shall restrict myself to coconut now. The proposal from the Chief Minister of Kerala is welcome and the negotiations should bear fruit. Since coconut can not have any barriers of linguistic states, when a decision is taken it should be made applicable to other areas also. Because in the case of salt land reclamation again, Kerala gets and Karnataka does not get. So in the case of coconut also, when a decision is taken it should be taken for the entire west coast, whatever is called Konkani and it should be made applicable to all sufferers from disease.

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE.** As far as the principle is concerned, I have no two opinion. I share the views of the hon Member but he should appreciate that a very large incidence is in Kerala and unless it is controlled it will spread to other areas. Of course it does not mean that we should neglect other areas.

#### Programme for Teachers' Education.

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\*87 SARDAR SWARAN SINGH  
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SHRI RAM BHAGAT PAS-  
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Will the Minister of EDUCATION  
SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE  
be pleased to state

(a) whether the University Grants Commission and the National Council for Teachers' Education have chalked out a new programme recently for teachers' education, in view of the new pattern of education, and

(b) if so the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND  
SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE  
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI  
D. P. YADAV): (a) and (b) A state-  
ment is laid on the Table of the Sabha.