

13 river valley project, and 3.2 million hectares in the rehabilitation and other special areas.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : May I know how those lands which have been reclaimed have been put to use and how much of this land has been distributed among the landless people?

SHRI SHER SINGH : The total area reclaimed and distributed is 1,89,832 hectares; this is the area reclaimed and given to landless labourers.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : क्या भूमि संरक्षण कार्यक्रम में चम्बल के बीहड़ों को भी ले लिया गया है ? यदि हाँ, तो कितने एकड़ भूमि का संरक्षण किया जाएगा ?

श्री शेर सिंह : रेवाइन-लैंड चम्बल के अन्दर काफी है। हमने 8 हजार हेक्टेयर भूमि के रिक्लेम करने के लिए 2 करोड़ रुपये खर्च करने की योजना बनाई है।

Fall in Production of Coconut

*855. **SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the per hectare production of coconut in India is in steady decline since 1950-51;

(b) if so, the percentage of production in 1969-71 as compared to 1950-51; and

(c) how far such reduction is due to diseases of coconut trees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) and (b). The per hectare production of coconut has registered fluctuations from year since 1950-51 showing rise in some years and fall in others. The following table gives the order of fluctuations in per hectare production as also total production of coconut over the period 1950-51 to 1969-70 :

Year	Yield per hectare (Number of nuts)	Production (Million nuts)
1950-51	5759	3582
1951-52	5724	3606
1952-53	6909	4498
1953-54	7012	4649
1954-55	6878	4409
1955-56	6532	4226
1956-57	6671	4383
1957-58	6689	4455
1958-59	6651	4589
1959-60	6621	4734
1960-61	6470	4639
1961-62	6194	4478
1962-63	6288	5017
1963-64	5920	4725
1964-65	5950	5043
1965-66	5698	5035
1966-67 (P)	5814	5192
1967-68 (P)	5760	5321
1968-69 (P)	5613	5546
1969-70 (F)	5655	5779
	Production/per hectare production in 1969-70 as per cent of that in 1950-51 95%	161.3

(P) Partially Revised estimates.

(F) Final estimates.

(c) The root wilt disease which is the most destructive disease of coconut trees is partly responsible for retarding the rate of growth of production.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : Government have admitted in the statement that the production has fallen in coconut due to the disease of the coconut trees. In view of this, may I know whether Government would set up a full-fledged laboratory in Kerala to do advanced research in this matter, because such research is taking place already in an advanced manner in many South-East Asian countries, particularly in the Philippines ?

May I know whether the government would take measures to know the experiences of those countries and set up a big laboratory under a central scheme in Kerala ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : These are suggestions for action. Productivity has not increased, but the total production has increased very much. In Kerala there are already research stations attending to the problems mentioned by the hon. Member. We are also in touch with other countries in regard to this.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: It seems production has been affected very much, in Kerala because of the disease. I would like to know whether the Government would take measures to supply hybrid varieties of coconut saplings to the peasants in Kerala for good cultivation of cocoanuts?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : We have established a seed farm to supply seedlings to Kerala, Mysore and other areas.

DR. HENRY AUSTIN : In view of the question raised by my hon. friend, I

was wondering whether the hon. Minister would look into the research activities carried on at Kayamkulam. The very name Kerala stems from *Keram* meaning coconut tree. People fear that if the pest goes on unchecked at this rate, the entire coconut cultivation would be wiped out in Kerala. So, will the Minister make arrangements to accelerate the pace of research work carried on at Kayamkulam ? I visit that place very often.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : Recently the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has succeeded in identifying the various which has affected the crop, and we are taking corrective measures.

**Special Shelter and Food for Refugee
Expectant Mothers from
Bangla Desh**

*857. **SHRI SAMAR GUHA :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any special arrangements have been made for giving special shelter and special food for refugee expectant mothers and mothers after child birth from Bangla Desh ;

(b) whether milk supply is being made for new born children ;

(c) whether special appeal has been made to countries rich in milk production for supplying milk for the above categories of refugees from Bangla Desh particularly ; and

(d) if not, whether such steps will be taken without delay ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA):**

(a) Labour cases are generally admitted