

was not actually released by the Central Varieties Release Committee. Therefore, my answer was in that context. Subsequently, the Central Varieties Release Committee, which controls this, has taken a decision to release both the strains. The experience before that was narrated in that answer. I do not think there is any inconsistency between the two replies.

श्री यशवन्त सिंह कुशवाह : क्या मन्त्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि चूक बोन के समय छोटे किसान अच्छा बीज प्राप्त करने की स्थिति में नहीं हैं इसलिए क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार प्रान्तीय सरकारों को यह सलाह देने पर विचार करेगी कि इसलिए उनको बीज का लोन कॅश में न देकर काइन्ड में दिया जाये ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : We have already advised the State Governments accordingly.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : शंकर मक्का और शंकर बाजरा खा कर घड़ा घड़ मवेशी मर रहे हैं और इन्सान बीमार हो रहे हैं। हजारों इन्सान भी परलोक सिंघार चुके हैं। पहले खड़े खेतों में आग लगाई गई थी और सरकार ने आश्वासन दिया था कि आइन्दा ऐसा नहीं होगा इस साल फिर दुनिया गंगाजी के घाट पर जा रही है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या अब भी वही वेराइटी बनाई जायेगी या दूसरी वेराइटी विकसित करने का प्रयत्न किया जायेगा ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : कम से कम आप इतना तो इन्तजार किया करें कि मैं आपका नाम लेता हूँ या नहीं। कम से कम इन्नी सन्न तो करें। अब चूक सवाल हो गया है इसलिये मन्त्री महोदय जवाब दे सकते हैं।

श्री जगन्नाथ पहाड़िया : सरकार के पास इस तरह की कोई सूचना प्राप्त नहीं हुई है। अगर माननीय सदस्य इस तरह का कोई केस लायेंगे हमारे ध्यान में तो हम उसकी जांच कर के कार्रवाई करेंगे।

श्री भोला नाथ मास्टर : इसमें जिन वेराइटीज को डेवेलप करने का जिक्र किया गया है वह केवल सिंचाई वाली एरिया की हैं। अगर सिंचाई में कमी रह जाती है तो जो वेराइटी डेवेलप की गई हैं वह क्राप नाकामयाब होती हैं। मैं मन्त्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या कोई ऐसी वेराइटी भी डेवेलप की गई है गेहूँ कि जो बिना सिंचाई वाली एरिया में हो सके ताकि वह उन लोगों को मिल सके जिनकी भूमि में गेहूँ हो सकता है लेकिन नहर या गंगा के पानी के बजाय बारिश के पानी से हो सके ?

श्री जगन्नाथ पहाड़िया : इस तरह की वेराइटीज का अन्वेषण किया गया है और उसमें कुछ को रिलीज किया गया है। कुछ अभी भी टेस्टिंग स्टेज में हैं और टेस्ट करने के बाद उन को रिलीज कर दिया जायेगा।

SHRI HEM BARUA : It is not a fact that Atomic Energy Commission Laboratory in Bombay had produced some improved variety of foodgrains like monkey nut ? May I know whether they propose to introduce the improved variety so as to improve our output of foodgrains ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : We invite the hon. Member to visit Pusa Institute where by atomic radiation processes we are trying to bring about genetical changes. I shall be glad if the hon. Member visits it.

SHRI HEM BARUA : I wanted to know something else, whether research in atomic energy laboratory in Bombay has yielded an improved variety of foodgrains or not. If so, do Government propose to utilise that to improve our foodgrains ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : We are in contact with them.

All India Co-ordinating Research Project for Coconut during IV Plan

*634. **SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have proposed

in All India Co ordinating Research Project for coconut during the Fourth Five Year Plan ;

(b) if so, the names of the places where research centres are going to be opened ; and

(c) the details regarding their duties and functions ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI S. C. JAMIR) :

(a) An All-India Co-ordinated Coconut and Arecanut Improvement Project has been sanctioned under the Fourth Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(b) The set up under the Project is as under :

Main Centre :

Kasaragod (Kerala)

Regional Centres :

1. Kayangulam (Kerala)
2. Vittal (Mysore)

Sub-Centres :

1. Veppankulam (Tamil Nadu)
2. Razole (APAU)
3. Andaman Islands
4. Ratnagiri (Maharashtra)
5. Sreevardhan (Maharashtra)
6. Palode (Kerala)
7. Peechi (Kerala)
8. Hirehalli (Mysore)
9. Mohitnagar (West Bengal)
10. Kahikuchi (Assam)

In addition to the above centres the following centres which are financed entirely by the State Government are also co-operating in the Project :

1. Nilleshwar (Kerala)
2. Arsikere (Mysore)
3. Mahuva (Gujarat)
4. Gudiyatham (Tamil Nadu)

(c) The Programme of work under this Project pertains only to major problems of regional and inter-regional significance. Research work on problems of entirely local importance will continue to be done under the auspices of the respective State Departments of Agriculture/Agricultural Universities. The items of research in the technical programme include breeding, agronomy, soil science and chemistry, quality testing, plant pathology and virus pathology, plant physiology and biochemistry of these crops. The detailed technical programme under each of the items will be drawn up at the Workshop meetings to be convened.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : What is the quantum of grants allowed to each centre ? Secondly, is it not a fact that Mysore is venturing to produce more coconut and in view of that will they be pleased to create one more centre in Mysore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : Rs. 40 lakhs had been provided for the project. There is a centre at Mysore. The State Governments are also carrying on these activities. We realise that Mysore is one of the important areas for coconut-growing.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Is it a fact that certain varieties begin to yield within two years of their plantation ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : Certain hybrid varieties have been evolved which begin to give their yields with a short period, say, within 3-4 years.

SHRI A. SREEDHARAN : India is the second biggest producer of coconuts in the world. In spite of that we are importing coconut from other countries. If the disease which affects the coconut cultivation grows at the rate at which it is growing, my fear in coconut cultivation will become impossible ... (Interruptions.) My constituency is one of the biggest coconut producing areas in the

country and I am myself a coconut cultivator. The hon. Minister has given an impressive list of centres and research centres but it is our experience that in the last five years the leaf disease is spreading like wood fire. An entire belt of coconut growing area in my constituency had been destroyed. Repeatedly we have brought this to the notice of the hon. Minister and various research centres but nothing has come out of research. I am told the Ford Foundation is also...

MR. SPEAKER : Question Hour should not be converted into a speech hour.

SHRI A. SREEDHARAN : I should like to ask the Minister whether in any of the research centres this question has been taken up seriously and whether they have found out the real cause of the disease and if so, what facilities are they providing to coconut cultivators to spray those areas and stop the spread of that disease ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : It is true that Kerala is the most important coconut-growing State, including the area of the hon. Member. Two-thirds of the coconuts of our country are grown in Kerala, and about 40,000 hectares are affected by the disease to which the hon. Member has referred. Scientists have been striving and making efforts, but unfortunately, the success we have attained so far is limited, though some of the reasons for the disease have been identified. But the research and these diseases are very complex, and I am not in a position to say that we will be able to overcome everything. But efforts are being made to arrest this disease.

SHRI A. SREEDHARAN : It is going on for the last five years.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : True ; but there are many plant diseases in the world and nobody succeeded in completely checking them. But we have succeeded in identifying some of the reasons and let us hope that our scientists will succeed in the near future to find out and identify all the reasons for it.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes ; Shri Shinkre ; only from coconut-growing areas.

श्री शिंकरे : जो स्टेटमेंट टेबल पर रखा गया है उससे मालूम होता है कि केवल एक सेंटर होगा, दो रिजनल सेंटर होंगे और दस सब सेंटर होंगे। इनमें से एक भी सेंटर की स्थापना आप गोआ में नहीं करने जा रहे हैं। आप जानते हैं कि गोआ में कोकोनट और अर्रिकानट की पैदावार बहुत होती है और वहां एक सेंटर की कम से कम जरूरत तो है ही। इस बार सेरी-नोपा नेफानतीषा डिजीज की वजह से कोकोनट पर जो आघात हुआ है, उसको ध्यान में रखते हुए वहां एक सेंटर की स्थापना करने का निर्णय आप लेंगे या नहीं लेंगे ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : We do not establish these stations State-wise, but we know the importance of the Goa area. If we decide to increase the number of centres, we will bear in mind the suggestion of the hon. Member.

SHRI LOBO PRABHU : Sir, some of us are coconut growers and I am one of them. But all of us are coconut-eaters or coconut-oil users. I would like to know from the Minister whether he considers this Rs. 40 lakhs sufficient for research and development, when we are spending about two or three crores of rupees in the import of copra. I am subject to correction about the exact figure.

I would like to know from him what precise research has taken place in respect of coconut. As far as we know, it is the same old coconut tree which continues to grow whether it yields in two years or four years.

Secondly, what has the Minister done for extending the coconut cultivation to other areas, to other States, because it is quite easy to grow coconuts on the boundaries of fields without encroaching on other lands.

MR. SPEAKER : You are going much beyond the scope of the question. Anyway—

SHRI LOBO PRABHU : It is research. It is not beyond the scope. He is ready to give an answer.

MR. SPEAKER : Extension and research go together ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : The sum of Rs 40 lakhs is in relation to the co-ordinating project. But that does not mean that this is the only amount for research. There are provisions under the State sector : there also there is a co-ordinating project. As for extending the cultivation to other areas, our extension divisions are taking steps to extend the area, and there are other areas where this can be extended.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : Though all this tall talk is going on, it has been our experience in Kerala that aerial spraying to a very great extent is effective in eradicating this malady. So, may I know whether the Central Government will go in a big way, in collaboration with the State Government, to remedy this disease by aerial spraying ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : It is a suggestion for action.

MR. SPEAKER : Why don't you see the scope of the question ? It relates to co-ordinating the research projects. There is no question of aerial spraying. Yes, Shri Nayanar.

SHRI E. K. NAYANAR : The main centre is in Kasaragod, and there are two regional centres. My home village is 35 miles from the regional centre in Kerala. I have seen the regional centre last year. Even in the regional research centre, the leaves of the coconut trees are eaten away by insects. In the coastal belt of Malabar, more than 40 per cent of the coconut trees are subject to this. Two years back, the coconut-growers convened a conference and demanded of the Government to give help from the Central Government, either through research and get a reduction of the export duty or through other measures.

But up till now neither the export duty has been reduced nor the research activities have been developed. May I know whether Government will take any measures to safeguard the interests of the coconut growers in the coastal area of Kerala because year by year their income is being reduced ? Will Government take some specific measures or constitute a committee of experts to see how Government can give relief to the growers ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : Government is very much seized of the problem. As I said, scientists are almost near the point of identifying the reasons for the disease. Once that is done, control measures can be taken. Also, the new hybrid varieties which have been evolved are expected to be free from this disease. Quite a large plant material is being made available so that these areas do not get economic set-back.

SHRI E. K. NAYANAR : What about relief measures for the coconut growers ?

MR. SPEAKER : He has noted it. Tyagiji, you are from a wheat eating area. I will allow you to put a question only on account of one story : I was asked by an urban man how big is the wheat tree and I said, "bigger than the coconut tree" !

श्री श्रीम प्रकाश त्यागी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं पैदायशी किसान हूँ। वैसे मैं खेती में इंस्ट्रे-स्टिड हूँ। मैं एक विशेष बात की ओर ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। अन्दमान निकोबार में एक पैदावार अगर कोई है तो कोकोनट ट्री की है। वहाँ जिनने ये पैदा होते हैं, उनमें से अधिकांश को सूअर खा जाते हैं। कोकोनट से पूरा-पूरा लाभ उठाने के लिए, उसकी फूड वैल्यू से पूरा-पूरा लाभ उठाने के लिए जहाँ आप रिसर्च सेंटर बना रहे हैं वहाँ क्या आपने यह भी देखा है कि वहाँ जो कोकोनट ट्री होते हैं और जिन को सूअर खा रहे हैं, उनकी भी रक्षा हो और उनके ठीक इस्तेमाल के लिए आपको रिसर्च सेंटर ने कोई रिपोर्ट दी है ? आप क्या लाभ उनसे उठाने जा रहे हैं ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : We have some idea of the potentialities of growing coconuts in these areas, but the real problem is marketing and infrastructure. We are attending to it.

SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM : There is a Coconut Development Council, but it has no power to look after the research centres etc. There was a proposal by the committee members that in place of the Coconut Development Council, a Coconut Board

may be constituted. May I know whether Government is considering such a proposal ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : The Coconut Development Council has been constituted only recently and it would not be right for me to pass a judgment that it should be dissolved and a new body should be set up. I think the council is doing a fine job in advising the Government.

Uniform Approach to Labour Problems

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*635. **SHRI MAYAVAN :**

SHRI DHANDAPANI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Labour Minister had urged the need for a uniform approach to labour laws and growing labour problems in industries ; and

(b) whether Union Government are preparing any scheme in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BISHWANATH ROY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The more important recommendations of the National Commission on Labour which provide a basis for such an approach, have already been discussed at the tripartite Standing Labour Committee. Action is being considered in the light of the Committee's conclusions.

SHRI MAYAVAN : May I know whether the labour laws are different for different categories of labour ? May I also know whether the disparity in the laws between highly paid workers and low-paid workers is the cause of all the trouble and heart-burning in industries ? If so, how is the Government going to solve the problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : As it is known to the House, it is in the Concurrent List. There are certain laws which are in the Central sphere and some State Governments have got their own laws. Though we are striving for uniformity in the laws, as recommended by the National Labour Com-

mission, because of the nature of the industry and type of work there is bound to be some differences in the labour laws of different States. So far as wages are concerned, there is some difference between agriculture and industry. Our attempt is always to rationalise it as far as possible.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : यह प्रश्न लेबर-लाज यूनियन करने के सम्बन्ध में है। हर आदमी जानता है कि हमारे देश में बीड़ी मजदूर लाखों की तादाद में हैं और उनकी तनख्वाहों में 1 ६० से 4 ६० तक का फक है मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनकी आर्थिक स्थिति को देखते हुए क्या सरकार एक समान मजदूर कानून पूरे हिन्दुस्तान के पैमाने पर लागू करने का विचार रखती है ? अगर नहीं रखती है तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इसमें बीड़ी मजदूरों का सवाल नहीं उठता है।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : बीड़ी वाले भी मजदूर हैं, जब लेबर-लाज का सवाल आता है तो उनका सवाल भी पैदा होता है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह एक जैनरल क्वेश्चन है, जिसका जवाब उन्होंने दे दिया है।

Expenditure on Arbitration Cases by Food Department

*636. **SHRIMATI SUCHETA KRIPALANI :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Food even after transferring the work of Procurement and Distribution of Food grains to the Food Corporation of India is still incurring expenditure on maintaining staff/officers on account of a considerable number of arbitration cases still going on for the fear that in case of their early finalisation, some posts of officers might be abolished ;

(b) whether in a number of Arbitration cases, where the Department of Food is the claimant, the delay in finalisation of those Arbitration cases is unnecessarily causing loss to Government ; and