

have been fixed for each State Government on the basis of the average consumption during the last five years. Accordingly, all important requirements of the projects in the public sector of the States will be met from within this quota. Separate quotas for the Central Government Departments on the basis of past off-take have also been fixed. The State authorities and the Central Government Departments have been requested to scrutinise their demand to ensure that the important requirements are met out of the quantity available. The State Governments have also been requested to take action under the Essential Commodities Act for regulating the distribution of cement through licences/permits etc. Sixteen (16) State Governments have issued such orders. The State Governments have also powers to take action against offenders found guilty of contravening the orders issued under the Essential Commodities Act.

The demand at the end of the Fifth Plan has been estimated at 28 million tonnes corresponding to an installed capacity of 33 million tonnes on the basis of capacity utilisation at 85 per cent. According to the letter of intent /licences issued so far, a capacity of at least 2.68 million tonnes by the Cement Corpn. of India and 3 million tonnes by the State Corporation is expected to be added in the public sector, while a capacity of a little over 7 million tonnes is expected to be put up in the private sector. To accelerate the speedy establishment of capacity, import of heavy casting, which involve long delivery schedule, has also been agreed to.

REORGANISATION OF COIR INDUSTRY

*109. SHRI P. K. KUNIACHEN :

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMINIA
MENON:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT and SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Kerala have submitted a scheme to the Central

Government for re-organising the coir industry and putting it on a sound basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof and

(c) what action has been taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir. A scheme for re-organising the coir industry in Kerala State was received by the Central Government from the Government of Kerala in 1968.

(b) The scheme sent by the Kerala Government emphasised the need for organising the spinning sector in a more methodical fashion by restructuring the existing cooperative societies, energising dormant societies and organising new workers cooperative societies. It also visualised the creation of a more effective organisation for the export of coir, a control on the price of husk and the desirability of undertaking welfare measures for workers engaged in this industry.

(c) The scheme was examined at great length. A Study Group was set up to go into all aspects of the coir industry including the scheme submitted by the State Government. As a result of the recommendations of the Study Group and in consultation with the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance, the Government of India has sanctioned a series of measures for improving the administration of the coir industry in Kerala and restructuring coir cooperative societies with greater financial assistance to them. The State Government has also undertaken measures to energise this industry.

SMUGGLING OF KIDS

*110. SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report appearing in