

and post-graduate training in veterinary and dairy science. All the three have also received training abroad. These scientists are fully qualified to scrutinise scientific reports and offer technical comments.

SHORTFALL OF OIL SEEDS

158. SHRI HARSH DEO MALA-VIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to an estimate of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research there is likely to be a shortfall of 1 million tonnes in the production of oil seeds by the end of the 4th Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE): (a) The Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research in a paper on "Sunflower in our Oilseed Economy" has estimated that there is likely to be a shortfall of one million tonnes in the production of oilseeds by the end of the 4th Five Year Plan.

(b) The following reasons have been given in the said paper for the shortfall in the production of Oilseeds:—

(i) Efforts under the Centrally Sponsored Development Programme were diffused so that these projects served more as a means of increasing the awareness among the farmers for improved techniques of cultivation rather than creating any impact on production;

(ii) Arrangements for the supply of pure seed of improved varieties were not adequate;

(iii) In view of low multiplication factor in crops like groundnut, the new varieties that became available during the middle of the Plan period could not reach the farmer;

(iv) Production technology worked out for groundnut grown under the irrigated and unirrigated

areas is yet to be adopted in the field on a large scale;

(v) The major area under the oilseeds is rainfed and since the quality of seed used is poor, the plant populations in the field are generally low; and

(vi) The plant protection programme for pre-seed treatment and protection measures in early stages of crop growth in the field are not adequate.

COCHIN SHIP-BUILDING YARD PROJECT

159. SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHA-RAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have a Chairman-cum-Managing Director for the Cochin Ship-building Yard Project, or a separate Managing Director will be appointed, and if so, when will the appointment be made; and

(b) what is the position of the present Chief Project Administrative Officer vis-a-vis the newly constituted Board of Directors for the Cochin Ship-building Yard Project till the proposed appointment is made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI M. B. RANA): (a) Chairman-cum-Managing Director for the Cochin Shipyard Limited has been appointed. He is expected to assume charge shortly.

(b) The present Chief Project Officer has been appointed as General Manager and a member of the new Board of Directors.