

**AGRARIAN REFORMS IN LACCADIVE,
MINICOY AND AMINDIVI ISLANDS**

*93. SHRIMATI DEVAKI (GOPIDAS) : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether any decision has been taken by Government to extend the Kerala Agrarian Relations Act to the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take for carrying out agrarian reforms in these islands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR); (a) No.

(b) Before the question of agrarian reform is undertaken it is necessary to complete survey and settlement operations. Survey operations are in progress in the islands and settlement operations will follow.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Does it mean that there has been no survey and settlement conducted before in these islands?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Yes; formerly an attempt was being made but by the time it had started these islands were transferred to the Government of India and they have undertaken this, and in about a year's time the whole process should be complete. Then the question of agrarian reforms will be taken in hand.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Have any representations been received by Government asking for the application of the Kerala Agrarian Act to these islands?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Sir, the conditions here are entirely different from those in Kerala. Here we have got customary laws and they will have to be considered, and then the question of reforms will be taken in hand.

SHRI SATYACHARAN: In view of the fact that the topography and the agricultural pursuits in these three

islands of Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi are different, may we have an assurance from the Government that while formulating a policy they would keep in view these different patterns of agriculture in these three islands?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: They would be kept in view. There are, in fact, ten plus nine islands—not three.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Question hour is over.

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS**

**RAT MENACE TO COCOANUT CROP IN THE
OFFSHORE ISLANDS ON THE WEST COAST**

*94. SHRIMATI DEVAKI (GOPIDAS): Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware of the rat menace to the cocoanut crop in the offshore islands on the West Coast such as Minicoy islands;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to meet this problem; and

(c), the amount which has been allocated for this purpose for the year 1962-63?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR); (a) Yes.

(b) (1) Rat hunts are organised periodically.

(2) Rat poison is supplied to growers free of cost.

(3) Supply of rat traps; and tin sheets to planters at subsidised rates for banding cocoanut trees to prevent rats from climbing up is also made.

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