

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Survey was conducted to study the extent of damage caused by the coconut mite in the coastal districts of Orissa where incidence was found to be between the range 20-30%.

(c) Based on the research findings, control measures have been recommended to the farmers. An amount of Rs. 16.00 lakhs has been provided by the Coconut Development Board for the control of mite in Orissa for 2001-2002.

Jhoom Cultivation in NER

4672. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the continued, massive practice of Jhoom (Shifting) cultivation in the North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details of special Government schemes, if any, to restrict and stop jhoom cultivation in those States; and

(c) whether Government would consult the State Governments in the matter and evolve a special policy and programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A scheme of Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA) under Additional Central Assistance to State Plan with 100% special central assistance is being implemented in the North Eastern States for the development of shifting cultivation areas. State Governments have been consulted in preparation of the guidelines of the scheme.