GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 117 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18/12/2018

CENTRAL COCONUT RESEARCH STATION

*117. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN: SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to close the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) centre at Kayamkulam in Kerala and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that this centre is primarily engaged in the coconut sector, which is the major crop in Kerala and the closure will affect most of the coconut cultivators in southern Kerala including research project and if so, the measures being taken to reconsider the decision in detail;
- (c) whether the Government has also received any proposal from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to close down the Central Coconut Research Station (CCRS) at Kayamkulam and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has decided to open any new regional centres of CCRS in the country and if so, the manner in which the Government can justify the closure of one regional centre by opening up the other; and
- (e) whether the Government has decided to cut down the number of workers in CCRS at Kayamkulam and CPCRI at Kasargode, if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government to improve the infrastructural and research facilities in regional centres at Kayamkulam and Kasargode?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 117 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18/12/2018 REGARDING "CENTRAL COCONUT RESEARCH STATION"

- (a) The relevance of closing or continuation of the institution is a long drawn process and is discussed at several high level meetings. Only after such several high level meetings, a conscious decision is taken at the highest level. In the instant case, the issue of having the institute and its regional centre in the same state was discussed. However, no final decision has been taken to close the centre of CPCRI at Kayamkulam in Kerala by the competent authority.
- (b) Yes, the Government is aware that this centre is primarily engaged in the coconut sector, which is the major crop in Kerala. There is no such decision taken on closure of this centre.
- (c) No final decision has been taken.
- (d) No, Madam.
- (e) ICAR emphasises on research activities of the institute based on its objectives and mandates. Cutting down the number of workers depend on strength of research undertaken by the institute. Focus is given more on core areas of research which is underway.
