

- (9) (12)
6. Since the agriculture and horticulture cropping patterns of tribal areas are generally of dry-land type and vary considerably from the fertile plain cropping patterns in many areas of the country, have the State Government undertaken research and experimentation for production of high yielding varieties of the agriculture and horticulture crops grown presently in the tribal areas? Please explain.

*The Cropping pattern of tribal areas of Andaman and Nicobar Islands are Plantation based and are rainfed type.*

*No, the State Government has not yet undertaken research and experimentation for production of HYV of agricultural and horticultural crops grown presently in tribal areas.*

7. If the State Government has not undertaken such exercise, have they sought and obtained the help of concerned central agencies like ICAR, IARI, National Horticultural & Research Foundation, National Board of Horticulture, Universities of Agriculture and Horticulture and individual experts etc.? If so, please mention.

*The State Government has not yet undertaken research and experimentation for production of HYV of agricultural and horticultural crops grown presently in tribal areas as the main crop of Nicobarese is coconut for which the climate of the area is very much suitable and their staple food is mainly coconut and root crops. These crops grow satisfactorily in these areas and the research need for other cropping pattern was not assessed.*

8. What have been the results of the efforts made in the direction of research and experimentation? Have they been beneficial? Please narrate.

*Not applicable.*

9. In what way have such results been extended in the field? Has the extension work done through ITDPs, Blocks and other agencies been successful in propagating the improved varieties and benefiting the ST families?

*Not applicable.*

10. Has any evaluation been done? If so, please elaborate with quantified material.

*Not applicable.*

11. Do you think that the extension agencies have been successful in conveying to the farmers in TSP areas inputs specifically required for the agriculture and horticulture crops grown by them? Please elaborate.

*No. As the tribals are very much reluctant to adopt new technologies, the extension agencies are facing lot of difficulties in motivating the tribals to adopt new technology including application of chemical fertilizers.*

12. Do you agree that in tribal areas, rather than chemical fertilizers, the emphasis should be on organic manure, particularly making use of forest litter? If you agree, please outline the plans and schemes the State Government has adopted and /or it will adopt to promote the use of organic manure.

*Yes, the department is implementing the scheme on Vermi Composting and Organic farming under Plan Scheme as well as under CSS in Macro management. Result Demonstration units are being set up in Govt. farms as well tribal farmers field to show the efficacy of the technology.*