

Board, the High Court observed that rules to regulate the award of major contracts had not been framed by the Board and that it would be necessary to frame such rules;

(b) the action taken on this observation of the High Court; and

(c) if no action has been taken so far, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed):** (a) to (c). The Kerala State Electricity Board has reported that a case (O.P.] 3321/64) was filed in the High Court of Kerala by a Contractor questioning the Board's order of awarding a contract for transporting cement from Theni Railway Station to Departmental Store at Pamba and Anathode. The Petitioner also requested that a 'writ of mandamus' might be issued directing the Board to frame regulations under section 79(g) of the Electricity (Supply) Act. The High Court after hearing the arguments of both sides and perusing the records, dismissed the case. There was no mandatory direction to frame rules but in course of the judgement, there was a suggestion that there should be rules on the subject for the guidance of the Board and that the Board may frame rules on that subject.

The Board is now taking steps to frame a comprehensive set of regulations under section 79 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948.

#### **Kerala State Electricity Board**

**3671. Shri A. V. Raghavan:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala or the Kerala Electricity Board has framed rules or passed orders or resolutions regarding the conduct of business of the Board and the powers of the Chairman, the account's member and Secretary of the Board;

(b) whether such rules, orders, regulations or resolutions will be laid on the Table; and

(c) if the rules as referred to in (b) above have not yet been framed, how the authorities referred to in part (a) above are functioning at present.

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed):** (a) Yes.

(b) Copies of the Kerala State Electricity Board Rules, 1957 made by the Government of Kerala, the Kerala State Electricity Board (Meetings) Regulations, 1957 and the Resolutions passed by the Board containing the devolution of powers of the Chairman, Accounts Member and the Secretary of the Board are being placed in the Parliament Library.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Land Reforms in Kerala**

**3672. Shri A. V. Raghavan:** Will the Minister of Planning and Social Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government of Kerala to carry out land reforms as envisaged by the Planning Commission;

(b) the steps taken to implement the Kerala Land Reforms Act in full;

(c) the reasons for the delay in implementing the Act in full; and

(d) whether any target date has been fixed to bring the entire Act in force?

**The Minister of Planning and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta):** (a) to (d). The steps taken by the Government of Kerala to carry out land reforms are indicated below:

#### **Abolition of Intermediaries:**

Legislation has been enacted for the abolition of Edavagai Estates and Pattazhi Devaswom and Jenmi tenures. The law for the abolition on Edavagai Estates has been fully implemented. Additional staff has been appointed to expedite the abolition, of Jenmi tenure. The law relating to Pattazhi Devaswom lands has been amended to facilitate implementation and it is