

over 1989. Apart from cut flowers, the trade in potted plants was estimated at around US \$ 2.4 billions in 1992. The share of India in world exports of cut flowers was estimated to be 0.2% in 1992.

(c) According to rough estimates are under floriculture, presently is around 60,000 hac. and no targets for area under flouhculture arc set by turn of century. However, it is expected that area may increase to 65,000 hac.

(d) Information on number of green houses in the country is not available. However, under the scheme . of Promotion of use - of Plastics in Agriculture an area of 95.195 hac. has been covered under green houses till March, 1996.

(e) Government is providing subsidy to farmers to instal green houses at the following rate:

Low cost green houses: 50% of the cost or Rs. 62/50 less with area ceiling of 500 sq. meter per beneficiary.

Medium cost green houses: 40% of the cost or Rs. 200/- sq. meter whichever is less with an area ceiling of 500 sq. meter per beneficiary.

High cost green houses: 10% of the cost or Rs. 200/- sq. meter whichever is less with an area ceiling of 500 sq. meter per beneficiary.

टैगोर की कृतियों के गुप्त होने संबंधी समाचार

2558. श्रीमती चन्द्रकला पांडेय:
श्री नीलोत्पल बसु:

क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को दिनांक 12 अगस्त, 1996 के "एशियन एज" में "टैगोर वर्कर्स लॉ स्ट बाई कला भवन" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित हुए नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक के प्रतिवेदन की जानकारी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार हमारे सांस्कृतिक विरासत को हुई ऐसी गणनानीत क्षति हेतु जिम्मेदारी तय

करने के लिए कोई उच्च स्तरीय जांच कराने का विचार रखती है; और

(ग) भविष्य में ऐसी मूल्यवान वस्तुओं का सुरक्षित अनुरक्षण सुनिश्चित करने हेतु क्या उपाय किये जाने का विचार है?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के शिक्षा में विभाग राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुही राम सैकिया): (क) जी. हां।

(ख) और (ग) कुलपति, विश्व भारती ने कला भवन की कलात्मक वस्तुओं की स्थिति की जांच तथा उसके मूल्यांकन करने और सुझाव देने के लिए एक तथ्य जांच समिति का गठन किया है जोकि अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ कला भवन की कलात्मक वस्तुओं के सुरक्षित अनुरक्षण के लिए उपाय सुझाने का कार्य करेगी।

Survey of Rape Cases

2659. SHRI ANANTRAY
DEVSHANKER DAVE:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI
HARIBHAI SHUKLA

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the UNICEF report stating that the incidents of girls and young women being missing/raped are on the increase in India, particularly in metropolitan areas;

(b) whether Government have also conducted any comprehensive survey in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) which classes of persons have prominently been found guilty of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) The UNICEF report "The Progress "of Indian States" has referred to the phenomenon of "Missing Girls" consequent to discrimination against girls. The reference is to the adverse child sex-ratio in the country which shows lesser number of

girls compared to boys. This is a reflection of gender bias against girls and the unequal status of women.

- (b) No, Sir.
(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Toxic effect of endosulfan

2660. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the acute toxic effect of Endosulfan on fish, other aquatic life and human beings and its role as the leading cause of pesticide poisoning;
(b) whether it is a fact that its use has been banned/restricted in some countries; and
(c) if so, the details and Government's reaction to the use of the hazardous pesticide in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHEES RAM OLA):

(a) All pesticides including Endosulfan being toxic in nature have toxic effects on fish, other aquatic life and human beings. However, safe and judicious use of Endosulfan as per the recommended practices may not be the cause of pesticide poisoning.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government had constituted an Expert Committee in 1989 to review the use of 14 Pesticides including Endosulfan. After considering the recommendations of the Committee it was decided to continue its use. Reviewing the use of pesticides is a continuous process and it is proposed to refer this product for further review.

Establishment of residential primary schools for poorest of the poor

2661 SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH:
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have recently decided to establish at least one residential primary school in each district, exclusively for the poorest of the poor;
(b) if so, what will demarcate the poor and the poorest of the poor and how these schools will be funded and administered; and
(c) what are the details of the scheme to be launched very soon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIXIA): (a) to (c) The Finance Minister in his Budget Speech for 1996-97 has set apart an initial sum of Rupees Five crore to assist in the establishment of residential primary schools for poor children irrespective of caste or creed. It is intended that this scheme should be implemented through non-government organisations. The guidelines and operational modalities of the scheme shall be worked out in consultation with the State Governments.

National Conference by FAO

2662. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) organised a national conference on July 3, 1996 in New Delhi to study how far the Panchayati Raj