

(c) whether the institute had spent crores of rupees with Government's assistance to develop this discipline within the Institute;

(d) whether researchers are also unable to conduct their research in the subject;

(e) if so, the facts and reasons thereof; and

(f) what steps are being taken by Government to have the discipline restarted soon to enable academicians to conduct and complete their studies further?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) According to information available the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur never had Nuclear Chemistry Department. Therefore, the question of it having been closed down does not arise. However, a course on nuclear chemistry was offered in the Chemistry department, which is not offered as a compulsory course now, because not many students are interested in this course.

(b) to (f) Most of the equipments were for Nuclear Chemistry was obtained by the Indian

Institute of Technology through US-AID before 1972. The equipment is now being used

by other faculty members for doing experiments.

#### **Research in Grapes**

\*366. SHRI T. VENKATRAM  
REDDY: DR.  
SHRIKANT  
RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any national level research centre for research in grapes is proposed to be set up in Andhra Pradesh or Maharashtra;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government feels that there is a need for such a centre in Andhra Pradesh or Maharashtra in view of the large scale production of grapes in these states; and

(d) if so, what is the reason for not setting up the centre?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI BAL RAM JAKHAR): (a) Yes, Sir, In Maharashtra.

(b) to (d) The establishment of National Research Centre on Grapes has been approved by the ICAR. A site at Manjri Farm in Pune District of Maharashtra has been selected after considering the report of the Site Selection Committee. The Government of Maharashtra has been requested to execute a Memorandum of Understanding and Lease Deed transferring the land for establishment of the Centre.

#### **Neglecting Town Planning**

\*367. SHRI AHMED MOHMED BHAI  
PATEL:

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether town planning has been neglected in major cities resulting in haphazard growth thereof;

(b) whether areas of major cities are fast transforming into slums as a result of neglect of basic facilities like sanitation, better roads, water etc.;

(c) if so, whether instructions have been issued to State Governments for proper town planning and ensuring basic facilities to people; and

(d) if so, the details of the response of the various States?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SHEILA KAUL):

(a) and (b) Urban development including town planning and provision of basic facilities to urban residents are State subjects and fall within the jurisdiction of State Governments. The State town planning departments, municipalities/municipal corporation and urban/regional development authorities enforce the town planning laws and regulations. Municipal authorities and State Government Departments are responsible for the provision of amenities in urban areas such as roads, water supply, sanitation, etc. The patterns of urbanisation and the factors responsible for

the haphazard growth of cities including growth of slums are dependent on a complex set of factors and not town planning aspects alone. These factors which vary from city to city include massive migration from rural areas and smaller towns on account of both poverty-push and prosperity-pull factors, wide gap between demand for and supply of serviced land, housing shortage, inadequate local financial resources to provide civic amenities and develop infrastructure networks in anticipation of future developments and imbalances in the location of employment-generating activities and in the access to economic and social opportunities. No generalisation is therefore possible regarding the casual nexus between haphazard growth of cities and neglect of town planning or basic amenities.

(c) and (d) Urban development being a State subject, Government of India plays only a nodal role and hence no formal instructions have been issued by the Government of India to the State Governments regarding proper town planning. However, to facilitate enactment of suitable town planning legislations by the State Governments, model town planning and regional development legislation was prepared by the Central Town and Country Planning Organisation and supplied to them. Based on the model Act, various States have framed their town planning laws.

To give a boost to urban planning including town planning, the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act envisages these functions as well as planning for social and economic development as legitimate municipal functions under the 12th Schedule of the Constitution. The Act provides for the constitution of District Planning Committees and Metropolitan Planning Committees with a view to decentralising urban planning activities by which process it is expected that the provision of basic facilities would also be taken care of.

#### Tobacco cultivation outside Andhra Pradesh

\*368. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of

AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts have been made to extend tobacco cultivation to new States where the soil, etc. are suitable;

(b) if so, the details of such efforts;

(c) whether any areas have thus been selected outside Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to protect the interests of the existing tobacco farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) to (d) Preliminary exploratory trials were conducted in Rayagada district of Orissa for cultivation of Flue Cured Virginia Tobacco, the leaf quality found was poor hence the trials have been discontinued.

Similar trials were also conducted in Baster district of Madhya Pradesh for cultivation of Burley tobacco. In-depth studies are required to confirm the findings.

(e) The above trials are only exploratory in nature to identify new areas suitable for exportable styles of tobacco which can be utilised as and when demand for such styles increases on a suitable basis. Hence, interest of existing tobacco growers would not be jeopardised.

#### मध्य प्रदेश के मालवा क्षेत्र में जल स्तर में कमी आना

\*369. श्री राधा किशन मालवीय: क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह बताते ही कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मध्य प्रदेश के मालवा क्षेत्र के बहुत बड़े भाग में जल स्तर प्रतिवर्ष कम होता जा रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस क्षेत्र में जल स्तर 500 से 600 फीट तक नीचे चला गया है तथा इस कारण कुएं और नलकूप पूरी तरह सूख गए हैं; और

(ग) क्या मालवा क्षेत्र की उपजाऊ भूमि जल स्तर नीचे चले जाने के कारण भरभूमि में परिवर्तित हो जाएगी और यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा स्थिति में सुधार के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं?