

and toxicological studies and feeding studies on fish, chicken, cows and buffaloes. In case, the transgenic crop is not found suitable for release in the environment or human consumption, the product is rejected during the trial stage itself. A final view on the commercialization of GM plants is taken only when scientific studies establish that it is safe for the human health and environment.

Dual passport to NRI brides

*257. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry has recently recommended to the Ministry of External Affairs to issue dual passport to NRI brides to secure their safe passage back home in case they are abused and harassed by their husbands; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendation made and the Ministry of External Affairs' stand thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal was made to the Ministry of External Affairs to examine the feasibility and requirement of issue of dual passport to NRI brides.

(b) As the Passport Act read with the Passport Rules provide for only one passport to a person, Ministry of External Affairs informed that in case a passport is lost or retained by any unauthorised person, including estranged husband, the Indian Mission can issue a duplicate passport on request.

Scholarship to students of minorities

*258. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of pre-matric scholarship, post-matric scholarship and Merit-cum-means based scholarship schemes implemented for the students of minorities in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, category-wise, year-wise and district-wise; and

(b) the amount allocated for the above scholarships, category-wise and released during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) This Ministry does not maintain district-wise data of students/beneficiaries. Government receives consolidated proposals from the States/U.Ts and Central funds are released to States/U.Ts for disbursement to students. Community-wise details of beneficiaries and year-wise funds released to Andhra Pradesh under the three schemes are given in the table below:-