

well as the Gujarat Agricultural University and the officers of Agriculture Department, Gujarat have visited the affected areas and collected samples for detailed examination. The real cause of the disease is under investigation. A research project has been prepared by the Gujarat Agriculture University to take up intensive work on this problem which requires detailed studies. In the meantime the Gujarat State Department of Agriculture has suggested certain prophylactic measures to be adopted by the banana growers to keep the disease under check. Briefly these are :

(1) Planting of healthy, disease free suckers available in Banana Multiplication Centres in the State.

(2) Treatment of suckers with aureofungin before planting.

(3) Planting in well drained soils and drenching the soils with suitable chemicals before the onset of monsoon.

(4) Spraying the trees at appropriate intervals commencing from the time when the crop is three months old.]

Blight causing damage to the Apple Crops

154. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that extensive damage has been caused to the apple crops in Jammu and Kashmir recently by blight; and

(b) if so, what preventive measures Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Accumulation of Huge Stocks of Sugar

155. SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIB-ULLAH: SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODA: SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT: SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA. SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge stocks of sugar have accumulated in various godowns in the country as a result of the suspension of sugar exports; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b) A quantity of 1.13 lakh tonnes of unshipped stocks of levy free sugar released for export are lying in godowns in the various ports and with the sugar mills. Out of these a quantity of about 47,000 tonnes is lying at the port godowns, as detailed below, and the balance of 66,000 tonnes is lying with the sugar mills who stock the sugar till release.

Portwise distribution of unshipped stock of levy-free sugar

Port	Tonnes
Bombay	11,640
Madras	5,142
Visakhapatnam	17,975
Kandla	12,572
Total:—	47,329