

[25 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

occurring in nature. During 1998-2000, evaluation of agronomic performance and on-farm trials for transgenic cotton to ascertain the yield, morphological characteristics, persistence, germination rate and pest load were carried out by the scientists of M/s Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Co. Ltd. (MAHYCO), Mumbai in private lands and State Agricultural Universities in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. The institutes were Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University Rajendra Nagar, at its Regional Research Station, Lamb, Guntur, as well as at Warangal in Andhra Pradesh, Punjab Rao Krishi Vidyapeeth at Akola; and Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani in Maharashtra. The effect of Bt cottonseeds on goats as model was studied at the Indian Toxicological Research Centre (ITRC), Lucknow and Bt protein was not found to be toxic. The agro-scientists of MAHYCO has conducted detailed post-harvest observations on the impact of Bt cotton cultivars at Jalna in Maharashtra; Dharwad in Karnataka; Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh and Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu. A team of over 20 scientists of R & D laboratory of MAHYCO led by Dr. Usha Zehr, Dr. S.K. Mukherjee and others conducted these experiments. It was concluded from these studies that there was significant increase in the yield from transgenic plants. There was also noticeable reduction in the spraying of chemical pesticides for bollworms, a major pest of cotton. The residues of Bt protein in soil were either non-existent or were extremely low and did not have any effect on the microbial populations of the soil samples. The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee has approved on 30th June 2000, large scale field trials with scientific monitoring in some States. Work has started in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

Recognition of Sanskrit Vidyapeethams as Deemed Universities

*447. DR. C.NARAYANA REDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO;

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

- (a) whether all the Rashtriya Sanskrita Vidyapeethams have been recognised as deemed universities;
- (b) if so, the names thereof;
- (c) whether certificates issued by these deemed universities are recognised at par with the degrees issued by universities; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for not considering — some Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeethams and the degrees issued by them for recruitment in Defence establishments, universities and other Government offices?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MAHOHAR JOSHI): (a) Only to Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeethas have been recognized as deemed to be Universities in 1987 under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956.

(b) Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, New Delhi and Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, Tirupati.

(c) The degree certificates issued by Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth are recognized at par with all Universities except, Delhi University, which does not yet recognize the Vidyapeeth's Acharya degree (equivalent to M.A.). The degree certificates of Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, Tirupati, are recognized by 27 Universities at present.

(d) The degree certificates issued by the two Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeethas and the Kendriya Sanskrit Vidyapeethas are recognized by the Central Government for the purpose of employment and all defence establishments for recruitment for religious teachers. In addition, the degrees of Kendriya Sanskrit Vidyapeethas are recognized by 39 Universities and 17 State Governments. Efforts are afoot to ensure that all Universities and all State Governments recognize the degree certificates of these Vidyapeethas for purpose of recruitment and equivalence.

Transfer Policy In CGHS

*448. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any transfer/posting policy of Government with regard to CHGS Ayurvedic, Homoeopathic and Unani doctor in Delhi;

(b) the details of doctors posted in CGHS dispensaries and units and the dates of their postings in that dispensary/unit;

(c) whether some doctors are being transferred frequently without any reason/completion of normal tenure of stay, thereby causing harassment to them; and

(d) whether any complaints have been registered by the CGHS headquarter