

RAJYA SABHA

*Wednesday, the 11th August, 1976/ the
20th Sravana, 1898 (Saka)*

The House met at eleven of the clock,
Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Research on Pests

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cecidological Laboratory, Allahabad, conducts research, on projects approved by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research; if so, what is the number of projects (i) Handled by the Laboratory so far; and (ii) under execution and the names of agencies financing them;

(b) whether the Laboratory has conducted any research to ascertain the existence of pests on crops other than paddy and mango; if so, what are the names of such crops;

(c) what research work has the Laboratory conducted on these pests;

(d) whether any other Laboratory is also conducting research on the economic importance of cecidomyiid pests; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that work on the PL-480 Paddy Project suffered a set back in 1975, if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps Government have taken to ensure smooth progress of the Project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. (i) Eight Projects, six financed from PL-480 and two from I.C.A.R. Cess funds. (ii) One, financed from PL-480 funds.

(b) Yes, Sir. Besides mango and paddy midges, research work has been done on midges of citrus, figs and oil seed crops such as gingelly, castor and linseed.

(c) The work of the Laboratory has been mainly on identification of midges of the crops listed above, their distribution in India, the plant parts infested and the extent of losses.

1—562RSS/76

(d) Yes Sir. Research work on rice and sorghum midges is in progress in the All India Coordinated Rice and Sorghum Improvement Projects at Hyderabad under the ICAR.

(e) The ICAR is not yet in a position to comment on this, as the required number of copies of the Annual Report for the period in question for Assessment of the progress of work by ICAR Scientific Panel are awaited and have been called for.

SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE : Is the hon. Minister aware that the Executive Council of the University of Allahabad intervened when payment to the research scholars was not made by the Vice-Chancellor and decided on August, 3, 1975 to make payment and start the laboratory by August 7, 1975 ?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : The ICAR had sanctioned a project for the University. The Vice-Chancellor reported that the progress of the work in the particular laboratory was not satisfactory and the ICAR was constrained to withdraw the project.

SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE : Is the hon. Minister aware that only on three flimsy grounds in the Audit report the ICAR has stopped further grants ? Is he also aware that these grants were released after a tripartite agreement signed by the secretary, Ministry of agriculture, on behalf of the Government of India, the US department of agriculture on behalf of PL-480 funds and the registrar, University of Allahabad, and that the Secretary, Union Ministry of agriculture, guaranteed the smooth running of the project ? Will the hon. Minister consider the proposal of saving a valuable laboratory from closure by taking it over to be run by the ICAR ? The entire equipment and the apparatus of the laboratory belong either to the ICAR or to PL-480 funds. The University did not spend a single pie in setting up the laboratory including the furniture and fixture.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : This is a laboratory of the University. The ICAR gives projects to the different universities and it is not possible for the ICAR to take all the laboratories under its control, when it entrusts a project to a university, its administration, control and supervision are left to the university authorities, and we generally go by their advice. About PL-

480 funds, one project is already in operation and it is still going on.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : I want to know from the Minister how the latest developments in research work are utilised by the manufacturers of pesticides. Secondly, I want to know whether the multi-national corporations which are trying to enter into the field of manufacture of pesticides have any project in India on research on pests.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : This is a very general type of question, Sir. The main question related to research projects in the Allahabad University. But whatever research is carried out, we communicate the results to the various firms which are engaged in the production of pesticides and we give them full information and technological know-how, whatever is available, so that it can be made available to the farmers as early as possible.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question.

Implementation of Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976

*32. **SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:**†
SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA :
SHRI BIR CHANDRA DEB
BURMAN :

SHRI HIMMAT SINH :

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the progress so far made in the implementation of the Provisions of the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976;

(b) the names of the States which have implemented them; and

(c) the reason for delay if any, in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHURAMIAH) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 is in force in the following

States and all Union territories :—

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Gujarat
3. Haryana
4. Himachal Pradesh
5. Karnataka
6. Maharashtra
7. Orissa
8. Punjab
9. Tripura
10. Uttar Pradesh
11. West Bengal
12. Assam
13. Bihar
14. Manipur
15. Meghalaya
16. Rajasthan

In Tamil Nadu, the Tamil Nadu Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 is in force.

The State Governments have taken action to implement the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 as follows :—

(i) They have appointed competent authorities;

(ii) Various forms have been printed for making them available to the public at a nominal price;

(iii) They are processing applications for permission to sell vacant urban land and urban property;

(iv) High Level Coordination Committees have been appointed for watching the implementation of the Act and suggesting measures for expeditious implementation;

(v) Urban Land Tribunals have been appointed;

(vi) Survey of urban land is being made; and

(vii) They have also taken steps to sanction additional staff.

A Central Coordination Committee for Urban Land Ceiling has been set up. It consists of representatives from all the States in which the Urban Land Ceiling Act has come into force. The Committee has met thrice. The deliberations of the Committee have helped to clarify matters. Several guidelines clarifying certain points arising from the provisions of the Act have been issued.

†The question was actually asked on the Floor of the House by Shri Bhupesh Gupta.