

**Improvement of Quality of Sugarcane**

**115. Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that have been taken to improve the quality of sugarcane in U.P.;

(b) whether any incentive has been given to the cane-growers; and

(c) if so, in what form?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):** (a) The following steps are taken to improve the quality of Sugarcane:—

(i) Continuous research is in progress to select and release new promising varieties with better sucrose content for general cultivation;

(ii) A few promising varieties are always kept on the approved list to be available as a stand by in case the varieties under cultivation show signs of deterioration;

(iii) Development and Extension Schemes are in operation to bring to the doors of cultivators results of research; and

(iv) The deterioration of suitable varieties under field conditions is being controlled through proper cultural practices and control of insect pests.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Under the Sugarcane Development Schemes, subsidies are given for the following items:—

(i) surface wells etc. under minor irrigation projects to the extent of 25 per cent;

(ii) phosphatic fertilizers to the extent of 25 per cent;

(iii) plant protection:

(a) 50% for pesticides, rechemical dusters, sprayers, etc.;

(b) 100% loan for power operated machines and plant protection equipment.

(iv) for completing the balance of the programme for establishing seed farms, assistance upto 50 nP per maund is allowed as under the 2nd Five Year Plan; and

(v) demonstrations of improved methods of cane cultivation are arranged in the cultivators' fields and credit facilities are provided to the cultivators for the purchase of fertilizers, etc.

**Weather Chart**

**116.** { **Shri P. K. Deo:**  
**Shri Narendra Singh Mahida:**

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether facsimile weather charts are sent from Delhi to foreign countries; and

(b) if so, to which countries?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Mohiuddin):** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

**Drainage in Delhi**

**117.** { **Shri P. K. Deo:**  
**Shri Narendra Singh Mahida:**

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that are being taken to provide better drainage facilities for flood water in Delhi;

(b) whether there is any proposal to cut the Ring Road by providing a culvert near Shakur Basti; and

(c) whether any steps are taken to check the overflow of water from the irrigation channels in the Punjab?