

(b) Suitable provision has been made by the State Government in their budget for the year 1978-79 in respect of this project in consideration of priority to be given to schemes for drought affected area.

Progress of Drought prone area Project, in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Rajasthan

1628. **SHRI ANNASAHAB GOTKH-INDE:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress of the development programme, undertaken with the assistance of the International Development Association in drought prone areas of six districts in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan has been slow, and

(b) if so, the reasons for the same and the steps taken to step up the tempo of the said project?

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

(b) Does not arise in view of the position stated against (a)

Use of Algae as Fertilizer

1629. **SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether field trials at many places, particularly in Tamilnadu, have shown that by using Algae, Chemical (Nitrogen) Fertilizer for the rice crop can be saved upto the extent of about 30 per cent;

(b) whether the production of Algae at farmer's level also has a rural income generating potential;

(c) steps Government propose to take to popularise the use of Algae and strengthen research in Algae; and

(d) whether the programme of production of Algae is not likely to be put to cold storage because of the fear that it may affect the sale of some big Fertilizer Companies?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) The Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi conducted a number of experiments at different Stations to study the effectiveness of blue-green Algae. Their data indicate that addition of Algae for Rice results in saving of about 25 Kg. Nitrogen/ha.

(b) The Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi has developed a rural oriented open air method for producing these algae for field application. Its potential as an income generating programme has not been fully assessed.

(c) The Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India has sponsored an All India Coordinated Project on Algae to strengthen the algal research in our country at national level.

(d) Biological inputs like algae are supplements to relieve the pressure on the chemical nitrogen input and not substitutes. The savings thus effected can be advantageously used for other crops. Hence, there should not be any ground to fear a conflict with fertilizer industries, in the framework of agricultural development.

सिचाई प्रचाली वर विधेयक

1630. **श्री बुद्धभवन सिबारी:** क्या कृषि और सिचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सिचाई प्रणालियों के सुचारु रूप से कार्यकरण को सुनिश्चित करने हेतु एक नया आदेश सिचाई विधेयक पेश करने का विचार है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस की रूप-रेखा क्या है ?

श्री श्री सिंचाई मंत्रालय में 1 यंत्री (श्री भानु प्रताप सिंह): (क) और (ख) सिंचाई राज्य विषय है और इससे संबंधित विधान राज्यों के विधान मंडलों द्वारा बनाये जाने हैं।

लेकिन सिंचाई आयोग ने अपनी 1972 की रिपोर्ट में यह उल्लेख किया था कि सिंचाई प्रबन्ध एवं प्रशासन के विभिन्न पहलुओं से संबंधित बहुत से कानून हैं और उनको सरल बनाने एवं उनका एकीकरण करने की सिफारिश की थी। इन सिफारिशों के अनुसरण में सिंचाई विभाग में माडल सिंचाई विधेयक के प्रारूप को अन्तिम रूप दिया गया था। इस विधेयक के प्रारूप में शामिल कुछ महत्वपूर्ण पहलु नीचे दिये गये हैं —

- (1) जल मार्गों और खेतों की जननालियों का जीभ्रता से निर्माण करना
- (2) भ्रान फार्म विकास
- (3) जल निकास
- (4) फसल पद्धति
- (5) सिंचाई प्रणालियों के प्रशासन में जनता को शामिल करना
- (6) जल का अनधिकृत उपयोग
- (7) खुशहाली कर एवं जल दर
- (8) विवादों का हल करना।

सितम्बर, 1976 में हुए राज्यों के सिंचाई मंत्रियों के दूसरे सम्मेलन में इस विधेयक पर विचार-विमर्श किया गया था। सम्मेलन ने सिफारिश की थी कि माडल विधेयक का ऐसे सशोधनों के साथ अपनाने के लिए जो स्थानीय स्थितियों की रोजनी में आवश्यक ममले जाएं, राज्य सरकारों द्वारा विचार किया जाए।

Sugarcane Crop

1631 SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the position of sugarcane crops during the present season,

(b) whether the present crop is sufficient to meet the full requirement of all the Sugar Factories of the Country, and

(c) if not, what steps Government plans to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) On the basis of All India First Estimates of Sugarcane, it can be said that the Sugarcane crop for the present seasons is progressing quite satisfactorily in most parts of the country. The over-all condition of the standing crop is generally reported to be good. The area under sugarcane has also increased.

(b) Yes, Sir. However, the recent cyclones in the South may have damaged the standing crops in some areas. Damage is yet to be assessed.

(c) Does not arise.

Withdrawal of Scholarship and Financial Assistance from Students on Caste consideration

1632 SHRI KESHAVRAO DHONDGE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal regarding assistance to the economically weak section of the society and withdrawal of scholarships and the financial assistance being given to students on consideration of castes, and

(b) if so, the outlines thereof?