

(b) the details of the survey of the fishery resources at Vizhinjam; and

(c) the details of the time in which the ship was engaged in fishing in the months of November and December, 1981 and January, 1982?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Exploratory Fisheries Project has only a temporary operational unit of its Cochin base at Vizhinjam. The Deputy Director, Cochin base of Explanatory Fisheries Project is responsible for supervising Survey programme of Vizhinjam unit. However, an Assistant Engineer assisted by an Assistant Director, looks after the Vizhinjam unit as local officer incharge.

(b) The Wadge Bank fishing ground is situated about 40 miles south West of Vizhinjam. This area is being surveyed by the survey vessel Matsyanirekshani (40.55M) from Vizhinjam and the survey vessel Matsyasugandhi (31.5 M) from Cochin. The survey vessel Matsyanirekshani surveyed about 2500 sq. km of area in the depth range 30 to 200 Metre for demersal fishery resources. During survey rich grounds of high quality fishes like perches, carangids, squids and cuttlefish were found. The high quality fish account for 30—40 per cent of the catch. The catch from this vessel varied from 100 to 200 Kgs per hour of trawling. The survey vessel Matsyasugandhi has surveyed pelagic resources by tuna longline method. The catch included 85 per cent shark, 7.5 per cent billfish and 7.5 per cent other varieties. Rich fishing grounds of sharks were located during December, 1981.

(c) The survey vessel Matsyanirekshani spent 40 hours in 16 days in November, 1981, 89 hrs. in 22 days during December, 1981 and 64 hours in 20 days during January, 1982. The survey vessel Matsyasugandhi spent

42 hours in 14 days in November, 1981. 81 hours in 24 days during December, 1981 and 69 hours in 19 days during January, 1982.

[हवाई अड्डों और बन्दरगाहों पर पौधों की बीमारी]

2474. श्री गुलाम मोहम्मद खान : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हवाई अड्डों और बन्दरगाहों पर उचित जांच व्यवस्था न होने के कारण कृषि वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा अनुसंधान कार्यों के लिए आयात किए गये पौधों और बीजों में बीमारियां बढ़ रही हैं जिसके परिणामस्वरूप वे हमारी खेती के लिए खतरनाक सिद्ध हो रही हैं; और

(ख) भारतीय कृषि को हानिकारक कीटाणुओं से बचाने की दृष्टि से आयातित बीजों और पौधों की जांच व्यवस्था सम्बन्धी कौन से प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन हैं ?

कृषि तथा ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालयों में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर० वी० स्वामीनाथन) :
(क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) विनाशकारी कीट एवं कृषि कृमि अधिनियम, 1914 के अन्तर्गत समस्त पौध तथा बीज सामग्री को, प्रमुख हवाई अड्डों, बन्दरगाहों और सीमान्त चौकियों से देश में प्रवेश करने की अनुमति देने से पहले धूमित किया जाता है । अनुसंधान उद्देश्यों के लिए आयातित पौध तथा बीज सामग्री की राष्ट्रीय पौध अनुवंशिक संसाधन ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली में आगे विस्तृत जांच व उपचार की व्यवस्था की जाती है । यदि विशिष्ट बीज से पैदा होने वाले कीट/रोग को पूरी तौर पर दूर करने के लिए

उपचार उपलब्ध नहीं होता है, तो उस सामग्री को नष्ट कर दिया जाता है।

इस बात का कोई प्रमाण नहीं है कि राष्ट्रीय पौध आनुवंशिक संसाधन ब्यूरो द्वारा अनुसंधान प्रयोजनों के लिए वैज्ञानिकों को निर्मुक्त किए गए आयातित बीज व सामग्री से किसी विदेशी कीट/रोग की शुरुआत हुई है।

Advertisements to Souvenirs published by Consumers Organisations

2475. SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated any steps to advise the Nationalised Banks and Public Sector Organisations and Government Undertakings to give advertisements to the souvenirs published by consumers organisation who are helping to curb the price rise; and

(b) if so, whether any assurance has been given by these organisations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Bio Gas from Grass

2476. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the possibilities of Bio-gas coming from grass rather than cow-dung (Hindustan Times of 8 January, 1982);

(b) whether the scientist of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have come up with any new suggestion in bio-gas production; and

(c) if not, whether Government will appoint a separate National

Committee Board to look into the production of Bio-gas which is renewable source of energy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. R. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research has already undertaken an All-India Coordinated Research Project on Bio-gas Technology *inter alia* to study utilisation of cellulosic materials including grass. The work is reported to be at an experimental stage.

(c) A National Project for Bio-gas Development has been launched and the Ministry of Agriculture has already set up a High Level Standing Committee on Bio-gas Development.

Foreign aid for irrigation Projects

2477. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) which are the irrigation projects that are helped or aided by the foreign countries or institutions and the amount spent on these projects; and

(b) have Government approached for fresh aid or help from any other external source for irrigation schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) A list of Irrigation Projects receiving assistance from various external agencies with details of credit assistance is attached.

(b) A number of projects have been posed to various external lending agencies like, IBRD, IDA, IFAD, USAID, EEC, UNDP, FRG and Saudi Fund for Development etc., and the Government keeps a dialogue with such lending agencies for fresh assistance which is negotiated as and when situation warrants keeping in view the requirements and suitability of the assistance available from a particular source for a particular project.