

ment agencies. The implementing agencies are State Warehousing Corporations, Market Committees or co-operatives, as may be decided by the State Governments.

(c) The salient features of the scheme are as under:—

- (i) The capacity of each godown may be from 200 tonnes to 1000 tonnes.
- (ii) Wherever necessary, a godown may have a cold storage wing for perishable commodities.
- (iii) The godowns built under the scheme should conform to the norms and standards acceptable to the State Warehousing Corporations. These godowns are to be affiliated to the State Warehousing Corporations.
- (iv) The godowns are to be looked after by Managers' who are to be trained by attaching them to the nearest warehouse of State/Central Warehousing Corporation. Preference is to be given to women for appointment as Managers.
- (v) The land will be provided free of cost by the State Governments.
- (vi) The godown receipt will be a negotiable instrument.
- (vii) The cost of construction of godowns is to be met 50 per cent by subsidy and 50 per cent by loans. The amount of subsidy is to be shared equally between the Central and the State Governments. the loans component is to be met by the banks.

So far proposals for setting up 1689 godowns having a storage capacity of 806985 Metric tonnes with Central assistance of Rs. 728.406 lakhs have been approved.

Seminar on strategies of Pest Management

2495. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a national seminar on "Strategies of Pests Management" was held in Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the recommendations made at the seminar;

(c) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. A three day National Seminar from December, 21-23, 1981 on Strategies of Pests Management was organised by the Entomological Society of India in collaboration with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The venue of the Seminar was the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.

(b) The recommendations made in the Seminar are enclosed.

(c) and (d). The Entomological Society is expected to submit these recommendations formally to the Government for consideration. When the recommendations are received, they will be examined and further necessary action will be taken thereafter.

Statement

SEMINAR ON STRATEGIES OF PEST MANAGEMENT

Recommendations

The Seminar based on the existing information formulated viable strategies for management of key pests in integrated system. Management techniques were defined for easy and quick adoption by farmers, such as:

1. Manipulation in date of sowing to get the crop escaped from the

attack of the pest at the vulnerable stage.

2. Use of resistant varieties which are least preferred by the pest.

3. Intercropping with plant types having non-overlapping pest sensitivity should be practiced in order to bring about a change in the crop canopy and the resultant change in the micro-climate responsible for the pest population build up.

4. Application of irrigation at the seedling stage to minimise the infestation of soil insect pests like termites, gujha weevil, cutworms, sawfly etc.

5. Basal application of systemic insecticides to reduce the incidence of pests and disease like viruses and also to minimise the application hazards.

6. Application of synthetic insecticides of higher efficacy and low mammalian toxicity like synthetic pyrethroids.

7. Adoption of other cultural practices like hot weather cultivation, earthing trap cropping, destruction of stubbles, field sanitation etc.

The following approaches needing research priorities were recommended.

1. Succession and population build up studies including determination of economic threshold levels and life tables of key pests.

2. Non-monetary inputs like cultural control measures and pest resistant varieties.

3. Non insecticidal control measures using attractants, antifeedants, hormones etc.

4. Development and formulation of synthetic and plant origin insecticides which are safe to natural enemies of pests and human beings.

5. For pest population monitoring and timing of various pest regulatory approaches like light traps and

sex pheromones etc. should be investigated.

6. The policy planning body should be strengthened by having a Senior Scientist incharge of Plant Protection activities in the country so that efforts at national level be made for intensification of research in several areas where gaps still exist.

Threat to Mullaperiyar Dam

2496. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHAI: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mullaperiyar dam across the Periyar river in Idukki district faces the threat of possible disaster unless preventive steps are taken expeditiously;

(b) whether experts headed by the Chairman, of the Central Water Power Commission suggested emergency steps in 1979; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not taking any action so far and the steps proposed to be taken in the matter to avoid any mishap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) No, Sir. There does not appear to be any imminent danger to the safety of the dam.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Necessary emergency measures have already been taken by the State Government.

Action on long-term measures like strengthening the existing dam with concrete backing has been initiated.

Pilot project for integrated development

2497. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether under a pilot project, jointly undertaken by India and West Germany, an integrated development scheme is being taken up in 102 vil-