

Wheat Project of the ICAR have the intensified research work on this disease on a priority basis and some useful results have already been obtained.

(b) During the last crop season a large number of samples were collected from all over the country particularly from Punjab and Haryana. Some samples from Punjab had infection as high as 40 per cent, or even higher, but the overall disease intensity for the whole state of Punjab was only 2.6 per cent. It may also be mentioned that disease severity in affected grains also differed considerably. Some grains were badly affected but most of the grains had just traces of disease.

In Haryana, the overall incidence of the disease for the whole state was much less and was 0.3 per cent and approximately 62.4 per cent samples were free from infection; the maximum intensity obtained in one sample was 12.5 per cent. Most of the samples were either free or had very low incidence.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) As already stated in the reply in part (a) of the question, Indian Agricultural Scientists have intensified research efforts on this disease and have obtained some useful results. The Government, therefore, do not consider it necessary to invite international assistance in the matter, since the expertise of the Indian Agricultural Scientists is capable of dealing with the problem.

News Captioned Soyabean Boon or Bane

3404. SHRI L. S. TUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to an analytical and incisive article entitled "Soyabean boon or bane" in Business Standard dated 1st January, 1982 and if so, whether the ICAR has considered these points

before Government embarking on extensive cultivation of imported varieties in preference to the indigenous ones and if so, the full details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that soyabean meal is now being exported and denied for local use and on the other hand Government are importing wheat etc.;

(c) whether Government have rejected the recommendations of the National Commission on Agriculture in this respect and if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) whether there has been a failure of the ICAR in advising Government in reaching correct decisions and if so, the corrective steps proposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The indigenous varieties of soyabean were associated with certain undesirable characteristics like long duration, pod-shattering habit, twiny growth, low oil content, low yields and poor processing quality. The exotic varieties were superior to indigenous ones in respect of a number of characters. Hence they were introduced for cultivation. However, they were also found to suffer from certain drawbacks like poor seed viability and susceptibility to yellow mosaic disease. Therefore, research efforts have been made to develop varieties having a combination of good characters of indigenous as well as exotic varieties. This has resulted in the development of improved varieties suitable for different agro-climatic regions, such as Ankur, Alankar, Shilajeet, PK 327, PK 271, PK 262, JS 2, JS 72-44, DS 74-24-2 and Pb-1.

(b) Yes Sir. Soyabean being exported. But there is no restriction for its domestic use.

(c) No, Sir, As per the recommendation of the National Commission on

Agriculture, improved varieties have been developed with resistance to yellow mosaic disease and longer seed viability for different regions. Secondly the economic viability of the crop has been established beyond doubt. It has covered an area of nearly 6.00 lakh hectares particularly, in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh in 1981-82 as against the area of 32,000 hectares in 1971-72. Thirdly, marketing facilities have been developed; public awareness about the value and the utility of this crop is being created.

(d) No, Sir. There is no failure on the part of the ICAR. On the other hand varieties and technologies developed by the ICAR Institutes directly or through ICAR assistance by Agricultural Universities have formed the basis of a major Soyabean Development Scheme launched by Government in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

Policy for curbing brain drain

3405. SHR L. S. TUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of widespread feeling of dissatisfaction at its implementation of policy of curbing brain drain (Hindustan Times, 15 February, 1982);

(b) whether it is a fact that several staff of ICAR Agriculture Ministry have been permitted to go out on deputation trips, consultancy etc. whereas other has been denied such permission and if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) details of staff who have proceeded abroad more than once in last two years and those that have been denied such permission; and

(d) whether the restrictions are in keeping with those of other nodal Ministries administering similar situations such as WHO and UNESCO and whether Government have the infrastructure to clear the work un-

der its new policies announced recently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Reported Lower Allocation of Imported Oil to Vanaspati Industry

3406. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the sources of the Indian Vanaspati Producers Association it would not be possible to raise the production of vanaspati during the current year due to lower allocation of imported edible oils to the industry;

(b) the quantity of edible oils being supplied to the industry by the State Trading Corporation;

(c) the estimated likely gap between demand and supply of edible oils; and

(d) the steps taken to supply more imported oil to the vanaspati industry and encouraging higher production?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On an average around 48,000 metric tonnes per month during the current oil-year.

(c) Between 10 lakh to 12 lakh metric tonnes.

(d) The present allocation of imported oil is considered sufficient to meet the estimated current demand for vanaspati.