

involved examination of eye of a "member of students, the National Society for Prevention of Blindness as recommended, among other things, that the school going age of all children should be 6½ years. Previously, the Society conducted a symposium on 'Prevention of blindness in infants' in New Delhi on 22 January, 1971, at which one of the main conclusions was that primary education, before the age of 6, should be in the form of oral instructions and very little of reading and writing work, and regular schooling, with instructions by books and writing work, should be introduced from the age of 6 onwards.

This recommendation of the Society was forwarded to the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations for consideration.

According to Compulsory Primary Education Acts, the minimum age of admission to primary schools in many States is 6½ years. In some States the age restriction for voluntary admission is 5½ years. It is, however, acknowledged that in educating children before this age-level, the stress should be on the use of play-way materials and on activities, rather than on formal education involving reading and writing.

Evolution of Spring Soyabean

4744. SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA:

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Agricultural Research Institute has evolved a 'spring soyabean' variety which may prove a boon to farmers in Northern and Central India; and

(b) if so, whether this variety has been sown and if so, the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Trials carried out at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute for two seasons have shown that two American 3001 LS—6.

Varieties Clark-63 and Adelphia are suitable for raising a spring crop (Feb.-June) after the harvest of sugarcane, potato, toria and winter vegetables, under assured irrigation facilities. These varieties are early and mature in 90-100 days as spring sown crop. Both are yellow-seeded. It was possible to obtain yields ranging from 30-35 quintals per hectare in the experimental plots. The crop in this season is free from several pests and diseases. No large scale plantings have been tried.

Area Under Cashew Kernel

4745. SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the total area under cashew kernel cultivation and the average annual yield?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE): According to the *ad hoc* estimates, the area and production of cashewnut in 1969-70 was as follows:—

Area:	234.9 (000 Hects).
Production:	196.6 (000 Tonnes)

Investigation for Real Causes of Cancer

4746. SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI
VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have investigated the real causes of cancer;

(b) whether one-third of those who die of cancer could be saved if the knowledge available for every diagnoses and treatment is applied without waiting for further research; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. KISKU): (a) Research workers in both Government and non-Government institutions are working to elucidate certain factors associated with the causation of cancer or more directly related to its occurrence. Recent advances in the field of epidemiological research on cancer have not only enhanced the knowledge of etiology of malignant tumours but have also brought out the significant role of environmental factors in the causation, development and progression of certain tumours. Studies of these factors have opened avenues for prevention of certain types of tumours.

(b) It can be safely said that one-third of those who die of cancer could be saved if the knowledge presently available for early diagnosis specially by extensive use of investigative cytology (Pap smear) is applied. Detection of cancer at the early stage followed by prompt and proper treatment is the most powerful weapon at our disposal today for launching an all out attack against the disease.

60 to 65 per cent of cancers occurring in our country, comprise of oral and cervical cancers. Both these sites are accessible to detection by cytological procedures. It is also known that these cancers are antedated by the development of precancerous or premalignant lesions. Cytological screening can also detect these lesions. It would thus be clear that if these precancerous lesions are detected and adequately treated, both the cancers like cervical and oral could be termed as preventable diseases.

(c) The Government of India had set up a Cancer Assessment Committee under the Chairmanship of the Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research to make an assessment of the needs and additional requirements of some of the existing institutions and hospitals so that they may be upgraded to regional Cancer Research Centres. The Report of Committee has since been received and is

under examination. The Government of India is also giving grant-in-aid for research work in cancer.

दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के विभागों में कबित गोलमाल

4747. श्री मूलचन्द डागा : क्या शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय छात्र संघ के अध्यक्ष ने सितम्बर, 1972 में यह आरोप लगाया था कि विश्वविद्यालय के विभागों में अत्यधिक गोलमाल होता है जैसा कि 19 सितम्बर, 1972 के "हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स" में छपा था, और

(ख) यदि हा, तो इसके प्रति सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण तथा संस्कृति मंत्री (प्रो० एस० नुसल हसन) .

(क) 19 सितम्बर, 1972 के 'हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स' में प्रकाशित समाचार के अनुसार, दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय छात्र संघ के अध्यक्ष ने "विश्वविद्यालय के अधिकांश विभागों में अत्यधिक फैले भ्रष्टाचार" पर चिन्ता व्यक्त की थी।

(ख) विश्वविद्यालय के विभागों में भ्रष्टाचार से सम्बन्धित किसी भी विशिष्ट मामले की जानकारी सरकार को नहीं है।

रति (चिमिरियल) रोप के मामले

4748. श्री मूल चन्द डागा :
डा० कर्णी सिंह :

क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :