

[English]

Changing of Patterns in KVK by ICAR

3189. SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the recent changes introduced by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in the funding and staffing patterns of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras;

(b) the Voluntary Organisations, National forum of Krishi Vigyan Kendras and other organisations were consulted by the ICAR before introduction of these changes;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the benefits likely to accrue from the new changes;

(e) whether the Government propose to compensate the infrastructure development made by the voluntary organisations;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard to the infrastructure developed and the savings likely to accrue to the Government as a result of new policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The recent changes in respect of funding and staffing pattern of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) have been introduced by the ICAR in consultation with the Planning Commission. As per the present funding pattern, the KVKs will be funded on a participatory mode of funding on 75:25 per cent basis, the share of the Council being limited to 75% of the total estimated expenditure during the IXth Five Year Plan and later on in the Xth Five Year Plan onwards, the funding pattern will be on 50:50 per cent basis.

The staff strength has been changed to 16 in all the KVKs keeping in view the essential requirements for taking up the activities of the KVKs.

(b) to (d) Based on a brain storming session for discussion on various issues of implementation of KVKs during IXth Plan involving various implementing agencies including voluntary organisation and further discussions for possible options the changes were introduced.

In view of constraint of funds and increasing financial implication, the funding pattern on participatory mode shall help these institutions to be self sustainable on long term basis.

(e) and (f) The infrastructural development for the KVKs have so far been funded by the ICAR on 100% basis.

(g) For any addition to the existing infrastructure, there will be a saving to the extent of 25% of the estimated cost based on the participatory mode of funding.

Fire Incidents in Delhi

3190. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHARA REDDY :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Cold storaged report warned of towering infernos" appearing in the 'The Sunday Observer', dated June 22-28, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Government have taken action on the S.C. Vajpayee Committee report to prevent fire incidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. It has been stated in the news report that no proper follow up action has been taken on the recommendations of the S.C. Vajpayee Committee which was set up in 1995 to look into the various aspects of fire safety management in the National Capital Territory. However, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have reported that the recommendations made by the said Committee have been forwarded to the local bodies/agencies concerned for necessary follow up action. In addition a Fire Advisory Committee has been constituted for modernisation of Delhi Fire Service. It is also envisaged to amend the Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986 for more effective fire safety management in the National Capital Territory.

[Translation]

Crime in the Night Service Buses

3191. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no security arrangements in the night service buses especially which are bound for Delhi, Chandigarh, Amritsar, Ramnagar, Haridwar and Kotdwar