

Method of Analysis

As given in Bureau of Indian Standard No. IS. 4333 (Part I and II), 1967 and as amended from time to time except for weevilled grains which are to be determined by count method.

DEFINITIONS*Foreign matter :*

Includes organic and inorganic matter. The inorganic matter shall include sand, gravel, dirt, pebbles, stones, lumps of earth, clay and mud, glass and metallic pieces etc. The organic matter shall include chaff, straw, weed seeds and other inedible grains and animal filth.

Other Foodgrains :

Any foodgrains other than Barley.

Damaged Grains :

Kernels or pieces of kernels that are sprouted or internally damaged as a result of heat, microbes, moisture or weather.

Slightly damaged and touched grains :

Kernels or pieces of kernels that are damaged or discoloured superficially so as not to affect the quality of material.

Immature and shrivelled grains :

Kernels or pieces of kernels that are not fully developed.

Weevilled grains :

Kernels that are partially or wholly bored.

Himalayan Glaciers

1536. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any master plan has been drawn up to save the Himalayan glaciers and flora and fauna for the overall interest of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that proposed acquisition of glacier range area by the Defence Ministry may cause a major ecological fallout in the North District of Sikkim;

(d) if so, whether any specific request has been received in this regard;

(e) if so, whether any discussion has been held with the concerned ministry; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Elephant Depredations

1537. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "elephant depredations causing serious problems" appearing in the 'Assam Tribune', dated February 4, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Assam submitted a proposal to the Central Government to capture 200 wild elephants; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard to curb the depredations caused by the wild elephants in Assam ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, the news item has alleged large scale depredations caused by increase in the elephant population and shrinkage of habitat. There are also suggestions that elephant population should be reduced by large scale capture in order to reduce depredations.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, a proposal was received from the Government of Assam to capture about 200 elephants in the first year with 100 numbers in the subsequent years in 1991, for the purpose of reduction of elephant depredations. In 1996, the request for capture of 200 elephants was made again by the Government of Assam to the Central Government. Permission was granted to the Government of Assam for capture of 12 elephants in 1992-93 and 20 more in 1995-96 in order to evaluate the efficacy of this method for reducing the depredations. Till date the Government of Assam has reported capture of 20 elephants only and the rest are yet to be captured.

Chadha Committee

1538. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a Chadha Committee to look into the various anomalies in the Technical Services of ICAR;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its recommendations;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement these recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The main recommendations of the committee are :