

1	2
Orissa	342
Punjab	145
Rajasthan	100
Sikkim	2
Tamil Nadu	775
Tripura	29
Uttar Pradesh	621
West Bengal	1030
All India	7900

* Estimated on Usual Principal Status basis.

Terminator Genes

1086. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANQLIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Strains of terminator genes have been found in the imported seeds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to prevent the import of these seeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):
(a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure that seeds containing Terminator Genes do not enter the Indian market include:

(i) Issue of instructions to all permit issuing authorities to ensure that seeds imported into India do not have terminator genes.

(ii) In the proposed Plant Varieties & Farmer's Rights Protection legislation, necessary provisions have been made to prohibit seeds with terminator technology being registered for plant breeder's rights.

(iii) the ICAR and Deptt. of Biotechnology are developing suitable techniques for detecting the terminator genes or their combinations to the seeds.

[English]

Visa Fee

1087. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether people visiting US Embassy in New Delhi for obtaining Visa have to pay heavy prices besides they have to stand on their foot as benches are not provided to sit;

(b) whether the Government propose to bring this matter to the US Embassy; and

(c) whether the Government propose to approach the Embassy for reduction in Visa Fee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) and (b) The visa applicants at the US Embassy are required to pay a fee which is roughly equivalent to the fee being charged by India for similar services. As far as arrangements to receive visitors are concerned, all Embassies would be aware of the need to provide appropriate facilities.

(c) No, Sir.

Scheme for K.B.K

1088. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have announced the schemes for Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput Plan of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds provided during the year 1998-99, scheme-wise;