

[Translation]

### World Bank Aided Horticultural Project

\*297. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any horticultural project for hilly areas has been formulated for implementation with the assistance of World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the project has been submitted to the World Bank; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) to (d). A Horticulture Development Project for implementation in the North-West Hill Region comprising States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and hill areas of Uttar Pradesh is under preparation. The team constituted for this purpose has visited the states. The project proposes to improve production of temperate fruits, vegetables and flowers thereby increasing income of the farmers. After the project is formulated, it will be sent to the World Bank for funding.

[English]

### Export of Fertilizer Plants and Technology

\*299. SHRI S. M. GURADDI:  
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India can acquire a leading position in the fertilizer sector and become a major exporter of plants and technology;

(b) whether any Committee has submitted a report in this regard to the Prime Minister; and

(c) if so, the main features of the report and the steps being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Yes, Sir. India is in a position to provide engineering and consultancy services to the developing countries and also supply sophisticated equipment required for setting up a fertilizer plant.

(b) The Science Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (SAC-PM) recently submitted a report on "Chemicals Industry in the year 2000 A.D. - National Priorities".

(c) The report has suggested new strategies and research in specific areas of fertilizers, synthetic fibres, speciality chemicals and high performance polymers. It has also been mentioned that with requisite inputs in R & D, India can acquire a leading position covering all types of nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers from preparation of project reports to supply of technology, erection of plants to running of plants on contract basis. In the area of R & D, Projects & Development India Ltd. (PDIL), a Public Sector Engineering Consultancy Organisation has done useful R & D work to develop various catalysts which are now being used by the Fertilizer Industry. India has received several offers of joint ventures for the manufacture of fertilizers abroad. India's participation could be in the form of preparation of project reports, design engineering services, supply of equipment, construction, commissioning and management of the plants.

### Research on Lord Krishna

\*300. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Special Commission to do detailed research on Lord Krishna from all aspects including history and geography;

(b) whether this proposal is pending for nearly four years; and

(c) the time by which a decision is to be taken in the matter?