

श्री केदार नाथ शिंदे : सभी किसी स्पेसिफिक प्रोजेक्ट के बारे में बातचीत नहीं हुई है। सभी पर बातचीत चल रही है। जहाँ तक सहमति की बात है राप्ती नदी पर जलकुंडी के पास कोई योजना है जिसके बारे में सहमति हुई है।

श्री बलिष्ठा प्रसाद मंत्री महोदय ने जानकारी दी है कि ईस्टर्न यू पी और वस्टर्न बिहार के इनाकों में हिमालय से निकलने वाली गंगा, घाघरा आदि नदियों की बाढ़ से हर साल बरबादी होती है, इस के लिए टिहरी डम बन रहा था उत्तर प्रदेश में वह कब तक बनाने की बात है और सोन नदी जिस से भारा छनरा बकमर आदि जिले नवाह हो जाते हैं उस के लिए सिंगरीनी के पास क्या कोई सोन और गंगा का बरेज बनाने की योजना है ?

उप्युक्त महोदय यह तो हिमालयन रिबरस के बारे में है।

#### Damage to Foodgrains due to rodents

\*5. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state whether the Government are having any approximate assessment of damage to foodgrains annually caused by the rodents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE):

No precise or reliable assessment of damage caused by rodents is available on an all-India basis. A Committee on Post-harvest Losses of Foodgrains had in 1967 estimated that rodents caused a loss of about 2.5 per cent in storage.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Since the Committee's report came in 1967 and we are in 1976, has any further assessment been done in between

as to the loss of foodgrains stored in warehouses?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: Studies have been carried out but not specifically with regard to loss in storage. For instance, in a study under a co-ordinated scheme by the ICAR, damage by rats to crops of barley, wheat, paddy, groundnut, maize and jowar ranges from 2.5 to 11.8 per cent. Another study was a pilot survey organised by the Institute of Agricultural Research Statistics which estimated the damage caused by rodents to paddy crop as ranging from 1.6 to 4.2 per cent. State Government are also carrying out certain studies. But there is a lot of variation in the findings.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Before storage in warehouses, what is the percentage of loss due to insects when the crops are in the field?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: The question was about damage caused by rodents. I seek your protection.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bibhuti Mishra

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : जहाँ गांव के रहने वाले हैं और शहर में भी जो थोड़ा बहुत गल्ला रखते हैं वे महसूस करेंगे कि चूहों से कितनी बर्बादी हो जाती है। मंत्री जी ने डार्ड परसेंट और पाने तीन परसेंट का लेखा दिया है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार ने उस के लिए किसी दबा का इंतजाम किया है जिसको रख दिया जाय और उसको खाकर चूहें मर जायें? ये चूहे ऐसे हैं जो पानी में घान डबा हो पानी में भी घान की जड़ो पर चढ़ कर उसे खा जाते हैं। तो क्या सरकार ने इन के लिए किसी दबा का इंतजाम किया है?

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE:** There are certain rodenticides. One is zinc phosphide, another is aluminium phosphide. There are anti-coagulants. These are easily available to farmers all over the country through State Government and even private agencies.

**SHRI AMARNATH VIDYALANKAR:** Have any attempts been made to assess the rodent population? Is it increasing or decreasing?

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE:** It is difficult to make a precise estimate of the rodent population. At one time some estimate was made but I do not know how far it is correct, it was estimated that the ratio of rodent population to human population was 6:1; that is to say, six times the human population. Dr. Parpia estimated the rodent population at 5,000 million but I do not know how far it is correct or not.

#### Vegetable protein Projects

\*6. **SHRI N. K. SANGHI:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an urgent need to augment the sources of vegetable protein for the masses in the country.

(b) whether F.A.O. has been assisting nations in this regard;

(c) if so, the number of F.A.O. has assisted projects that are functioning in India and also those run by Government and to what extent the needs are being met; and

(d) what plans have been drawn up for increasing these sources of protein during the next three years?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):** (a) to (d). A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

#### Statement

(a) Vegetable protein is mainly derived from cereals, legumes and oilseeds. If the protein available from these and other sources is effectively derived, evenly distributed and utilised the present production in the country should be sufficient to meet the overall needs of the people.

(b) to (d). There is no specific project in operation with FAO assistance for augmenting sources of vegetable proteins. Government have, however, taken steps to increase the production of cereals and pulses in the country through introduction of better seeds and improved agricultural practices, as these form the main source of vegetable protein for the people. Government in the Department of Food have also taken up steps to increase consumption of non-traditional sources of protein like groundnut and soyabean meal in order to supplement the protein availability from cereals and pulses.

**SHRI N. K. SANGHI:** Protein average being very low in our country and soyabean being one of the greatest protein yielding vegetables, what steps have the government taken to see that soyabean that is lying in stock with them is being sold out to people? What is the position about state Government stocks? There are reports that soyabean is not being sold out at all. What is being done to popularise this particular exotic, highyielding variety of protein which is a vegetable protein?

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE:** Soyabean production programmes and research are coming up; there has been some progress in U.P. and M.P. in regard to that. I should like to inform the House that the general protein availability in the country, according to export report is not less than our requirement; but it is not equally distributed. That is why a large section of society, particularly with low purchasing power are not getting adequate protein, especially