

- (c) (i) About 80 types of pan leaves as germplasm resource have been collected so far out of which promising varieties for different betelvine growing areas have been identified.
- (ii) Varieties resistant/tolerant to major fungal, bacterial, nematode diseases have also been identified for large scale adoption.
- (iii) Intergrated control measures through use of disease-free planting material and other practices have been developed for control of major diseases of this crop.
- (iv) Useful recommendations have been made on fertilizer and water requirements of the plants and tackling of post-harvest technology problems.

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Sir, the point is that West Bengal produces three-fourths of the betel leaves of the country. I would like to know whether the Government will take positive steps to set up one full-fledged betel leaf research project in West Bengal.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Sir, there are coordinating research projects which are taking care of this.

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : My second Supplementary is that the Government has given some assistance to some agricultural universities for the scientific research of betel leaves. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any coordination among the centres and which is the monitoring authority of these scientific research centres in different agricultural universities.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Sir, there is coordination between these centres and the ICAR is the nodal agency to monitor all this.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad the Government have

sanctioned a research project for Andhra in regard to betel leaf through ICAR. May I know whether the Government has been checking up the achievements of this research centre there in Ponnur, and whether they have sanctioned adequate funds in order to improve its capability, so that the worm that has begun to affect the betel leave can be destroyed and the problem is overcome.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : May I know what you have said? What did you ask? Is it about the coordination by ICAR? (*Interruptions*). I have already said that there is coordination. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : They are not able to hear each other!

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It is not a domestic affair! They should communicate through you.

Opening of ESI hospitals in the Capital

*427. SHRI SUBASH YADAV :

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SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
GAVIT :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to open new hospitals under ESI scheme in the Capital;

(b) if so, the number of such hospitals likely to be opened; and

(c) the site selected for the same and funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 4 (four).

(c) A 200 beds hospital at Jhilmil, Shahdara is in an advanced stage of construction. The estimated cost of construction of this hospital is Rs. 4.37 crores.

The estimates for construction of a 200 beds hospital in Okhla and plans for construction of a 250 beds hospital in Rohini Scheme are under preparation. The fourth hospital with 150 beds (TB) is proposed to be constructed in West Delhi, for which suitable plot of land is yet to be acquired.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Will you ask any supplementary, Mr. Yadav, or is that enough? Yes, Mr. Samant, you want to ask a supplementary. You may ask.

[*English*]

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Sir, in this ESI Scheme, the Government is making a huge business. After increasing the limit, in one year only, an additional amount of Rs. 44 crores is collected. There are two questions, here. That is why, I want to ask the Minister, through you.

What is the total amount the Government is collecting every year? What is the total amount available for construction of hospitals? Why is there so much delay in the number of proposals all over the country, especially in Maharashtra—Aurangabad and all these places—where the proposals are lying for approval for 15 years? What is the additional amount available every year under this scheme, after extending the limit of salary and why are these hospital schemes in the various States and towns pending?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : I do not agree with the hon. Member that we are making a huge business out of these hospitals.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I have said, you are making huge business under this ESI Scheme now by increasing the limit upto Rs. 1600 level. You are collecting more than Rs. 100 per worker and now you are planning to still increase the limit further.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : That would enable us to cover more workers. That is the intention.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : You are

collecting more than Rs. 150 per worker. But you are not giving the benefit. Schemes for hundreds of hospitals are pending. That is my grievance.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : Sir this is a question specifically for Delhi. I would not be able to say about other places.

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Nirmala Kumari Shaktawat—not present.

MR. SPEAKER : The question list is over.

I will again call the members who were absent earlier.

Shri Tariq Anwar

Shri Sarfaraz Ahmad

Shri Anand Singh

Shri Hussain Dalwai

Dr. (Mrs.) T. Kalpana Devi

Shri N. Dennis

Shri Yashwantrao Gadakh Patil

Shri Manik Reddy

Dr. D. N. Reddy

Shri Gurudas Kamat

Shri I. Rama Rai

Shri Lakshman Mallick

Shri Murlidhar Mane

Prof. Nirmala Kumari Shaktawat
They are all absent.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

Working of D.D A

*409. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

SHRI SAIFARAZ AHMAD :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken or contemplate any steps to tone up the working of the Delhi Development Autho-