

second thing is that through this education we can save the youths from the diseases like AIDS but it could not be a permanent solution. It may also be possible that through this education such diseases and such problems may increase in the society. So there is a need to find out the treatment of such diseases.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now please, you have to stop it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will you make arrangements for imparting moral education through religious preaching ?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Respected Mr. Speaker, Sir, neither I could reach up to the literary level of the hon. Member nor to his knowledge on the subject. In the reply of this question I would like to tell the measures to be taken on this issue. The issue has been discussed in detail and some suggestions have been received as to how this subject should be added in the curriculum. For the effective implementation of these suggestions it will be necessary to provide training for teachers for enabling them to impart this education.

[English]

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : I would like to know very specifically from the hon. Minister whether the Government shares the views of some experts that in countries where sex education has been imparted, there the population rate of increase has gone down.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : The fact is that in this country the reference to this subject has come up through the population control process. There are already many areas in which the population factor is in the curriculum even today in many of the text books. Therefore, what the hon. Member says is entirely correct. Ultimately this proper education will help in controlling population also.

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is contemplating to remove all obscenities from the literature, like novels and cinema songs because

various songs have been written and are being sung like, "Choli ke peeche kya hai" and so on. I want to know whether the Government is contemplating to remove all these obscenities from the lifestyles of the people or whether such type of things will be allowed in the curriculum of the students.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Obscene texts are not something in which we are directly involved and there is a law and there are ways in which it has been interpreted. I do not want to say anything. But as far as the educational aspect is concerned, we will certainly try to see that nothing obscene creeps in through the texts.

[Translation]

#### MODERN IRRIGATION TECHNIQUE

\*202. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether agricultural experts have evolved a modern technique of irrigation in view of the shortage of water;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the application of said technique;

(c) whether the new technique shall be cost effective; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make it cost effective so that small and marginal farmers can use it ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. A new technique of irrigation called Drip Irrigation Method has been evolved by Agricultural experts.

(b) The drip method of irrigation involves frequent slow application of water at low pressure through a net-work of pipelines. Water is released near the plant base with the help of emitters or drippers.

This system enables water application precisely and directly to the rootzone maintaining an optimal moisture condition. The system has emerged as an efficient water saving and production augmenting technique for wide-spaced orchard crops as well as vegetable and cash crops.

(c) The drip irrigation system involves a high initial cost for its installation. However, it is promising in water-scarce regions for cultivation of widely spaced high-value horticultural and other cash crops.

(d) The State and the Central Government are providing subsidy to small land marginal farmers for purchase of the drip irrigation units. Adequate Central grants have been earmarked for this purpose during the 8th Five Year Plan.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) : Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has stated about the Drip Irrigation System, but it is not a new technique in agriculture. I would like to know about the suggestions made by the Israeli delegation which has recently visited India regarding the utilisation of water resources and action being taken by the Government in this matter.

[*English*]

SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR : An agricultural delegation from India had visited Israel. The hon. Minister of Agriculture has also visited Israel and an agricultural cooperation programme is also proposed to be signed. Various break throughs made in agriculture in Israel are well-known. Many suggestions have been made as a result of the exchange of information. These are under consideration.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Minister has told just now that the delegation has made many suggestions. I would like to know whether any suggestion has been made for Rajasthan also and the cost of installing a Drip Irrigation Plant because there is no information about it in the papers laid on the Table. Will the Central or the State Government also provide assistance to small and marginal farmers for installing these plants.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister of Agriculture Shri Balram Jakhar belongs to Rajasthan. He knows about the scarcity of drinking water there. In my region Bharatpur and Alwar there is no water for irrigation. Due to construction of Pasana Dam the water flowing towards Bharatpur has been stopped, and the people of the region are facing heavy shortage of water there. Farmers do not have water for irrigation even then the Government is collecting revenue from them.

I would like to know the number of Drip Irrigation plants to be installed in Rajasthan and especially the number of units to be installed in district Bharatpur.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question raised by the hon. Member relates to the entire draft of the plan for future and there are so many steps to be taken in this regard. As she has told that it is an old method but it is not common in our country. Drip irrigation and sprinkler system both are profitable. I will tell about their costs. These systems will play important role in future. For Rajasthan it is a must because the level of water is going down there due to shortage of rain. Shortage of rainfall and low recharge of water level is taking place due to ecological imbalances. Water-shed programme and water conservation programme can be beneficial in this regard. We are also trying to find out as to how we can maximum utilise the water available with us and how we can recharge the ground water level and save the available water. Our department and farmers of the country would like to know as to how the agricultural production can be increased and maximum use can be taken from irrigation facilities. Without irrigation, there is no use to work hard. Dry-land farming and such seeds are being developed as will demand less irrigation. But even then water will be required, so we should make maximum utilisation of the available water, Drip Irrigation is one of the methods. (*Interruptions*) In respect of fruit production, Drip Irrigation can be sufficient for four acres to seven acres of land and in respect of sugarcane and vegetables the double area of land can be irrigated. It

will cost fifteen to fifty thousand rupees per hectare, for which fifty per cent subsidy is given by the Ministry, small and medium farmers are also given subsidy by the Rural Development Department and fifty per cent subsidy is also given for SCs and STs. I would like to say that maximum number of persons should be benefited by this scheme. At present 55 thousand hectare area was irrigated by it, this year we have made provision for Rs. 200 crores. Earlier it was proposed that the subsidy would be given to the farmers having four acres of land. But now we propose that maximum number of farmers should be brought under this scheme. I think that all these limits should be removed. For saving water I would like to provide assistance to everyone who is interested in it. This will reduce the expenditure on fertilizer and increase the production. At present Sprinkler Irrigation is much more prevalent in Maharashtra and Rajasthan.

[Translation]

If publicity is given to 'drip irrigation' it can be more beneficial to the farmers. Besides it, we can do better with Milching, Plastic culture and Green House too. I intend to bring new changes in the field of agriculture and want the farmers to adopt them and for this purpose they will be given assistance as much as we can.

We are making demonstrations about drip irrigation system, so that the farmers may be benefited by adopting it and it will ultimately benefit the nation because we may be able to make the stock of food grains for future also and it will also put an end to the disputes prevailing over the river water among the States and they can make proper use of the water. The misuse of water spoils the fertility of land. I will change the entire scene and it will give a new dimension to the nation.

**SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the farmers do not get adequate water for agriculture then how they are given the subsidy.

**MR. SPEAKER :** He has just now told about it.

[English]

**SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we agree fully with the views expressed by the hon. Minister for Agriculture. At present, 50 per cent subsidy is being given to small and marginal farmers. In view of the national importance involved in extending the irrigation facility to more areas through drip irrigation system, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will give at least 25 per cent subsidy to other category of farmers so that they can take up farming in a large way. By doing this, you are not only helping the farmers but the nation as a whole.

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR :** Sir, I have already replied that I am going to remove all these restrictions. I am going to give all facilities to all farmers.

**SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE :** Thank you very much.

[Translation]

**SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV :** Mr. Speaker, Sir the hon. Member had asked whether in view of the water shortage the Agricultural Experts have developed a technology of modern irrigation? You have told that sprinkler and drip-irrigation system can be useful for small farmers. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh are larger States where agriculture is also taken up on large scale. There is a great scarcity of water in these states as the canals get dried up and tubewells do not run due to power shortage. In these circumstances I would like to know whether the Agriculture Ministry is working on some plan to meet out the water scarcity because this is the only way to make available water to the farmers and thus saving their crops.

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR :** This is all the same. It is not only meant for fruits or vegetables it can also be used for cotton, sugarcane and maize in every region. That is why I have told you that it may cost from Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 50,000 but it only requires one time investment and it may benefit the farmers for years. I am trying to make arrangements for this money as this is in the interest of the farmers and the country as well.