

- (vi) Demonstration of improved methods of lac cultivation, collection and marketing; and
- (vii) Training of personnel from State Forest Departments, farmers and NGOs in the use of bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides.

[*English*]

Damage to Mangoes

2851. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of mangoes is destroyed in coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh and in other parts of the country by winds of high velocity and diseases;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme to protect mangoes by using a airspray so as to earn hundred percent foreign exchange; and

(d) if so, the details of scheme being chalked out in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). There are no reports of large scale damage of Mango in Andhra Pradesh and other parts of country by winds of high velocity and diseases. However, in Andhra Pradesh very small damage of about 2000 tonnes of mangoes in 3 districts of Krishna, West Godawari and Guntur was reported.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Indian Forest Act, 1927

2852. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to amend the Indian Forest Act, 1927;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed amendments therein and the efforts made so far in this regard;

(c) whether some State Governments have demanded the amendment of this Act; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Indian Forest Act, 1927 is the principal legislation which regulates the management of forest by the States. In some States the Act is applicable as it is, while some of the States have enacted their own Acts which in essence are the adopted versions of the Indian Forest Act, 1927. Since its adoption, forestry management has undergone many conceptual changes leading to the new National Forest Policy in 1988. Consequently, the need has been felt for a revised and more comprehensive legislation which would take into account the new National Forest Policy and the emerging imperatives of conservation of forests and wildlife and preservation of nation's bio-diversity.

(b) Broadly speaking, the new provisions/amendments proposed fall into three categories:—

(1) Amendments to the existing provisions with a view to making them more effective.

(2) Incorporation of provisions which already exist in some of the States either by way of amendment to the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or by virtue of new Acts enacted by the States.