

### Research in Cultivation of Lokena for Fodder and Timber

3200. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a letter appearing in the Marathi "Loksatte" dated the 12th January, 1980 regarding cultivation of "Lokena" trees which grow over 60 feet in height in a short period of five years and which are considered to be ideal for providing cattle fodder and timber; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make further research in the matter and start plantation of this tree on an experimental basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) *Leucaena leucocephala* commonly known as Koo-babul tree has mainly 3 types of plants. Short bushy growing upto 5 metres height is known as 'Hawaiian types', which are low yielders. The second type is known as "Peru types" which are tall growing upto 15 metres height with extensive branches and provide high quality and quantity of forage. The third type is known as "Salvador types" which are tall trees growing upto height of 20 metres with large leaves and thick trunk, they are the high yielders.

*Leucaena* tree provides nutritious leaves for animal fodders, twigs for fuel and full grown trunks as timber. The seed of *leucaena* contain gum (15 to 20 per cent) and the leaves contain 26 to 30 per cent protein. This tree is reported to fix nitrogen symbiotically from air benefiting the succeeding crop taken in rotation. However, it has toxic substance known as *mimosine* which becomes toxic to animals if fed in large quantities for longer period of 6 to 8 months. If the *leucaena* leaves fed to the cattle form

only about 30 to 40 per cent of the total daily feed to the cattle the problem of toxic threshold of *mimosine* would be eliminated.

(b) The research programme on *Leucaena leucocephala* is already in progress at the Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi (U.P.) and at some of the Agricultural Universities and other Institutions such as Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Koslibad Hills, Bombay, Bharatiya Agro-Industries URULIKANCHAN, Poona etc. It is also proposed to intensify research on all aspects of this tree for social forestry, soil amelioration, fodder production as well as for fuel. Efforts are also being put for plantation of this tree for fodder-cum-fuel system in both drought-prone and irrigated areas and also introduce in waste lands, Saline and Alkaline areas, ravines lands etc. To meet this requirement, large scale seed production and procurement programmes are being planned.

सहकारी किसान चीनी मिल महमूदाबाद,  
सीतापुर के पुनर्गठन के लिए लाइसेंस

3201. श्री राम लाल राही : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राज्य सरकार ने सहकारी किसान चीनी मिल, महमूदाबाद, सीतापुर के पुनर्गठन के लिए लाइसेंस का नवीकरण करने के बारे में केन्द्रीय सरकार को लिखा है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो लाइसेंस का नवीकरण कब तक किया जायेगा ?

कृषि तथा ग्रामीण पुनर्निर्माण मंत्री (श्री बीरेन्द्र सिंह राव) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) इस लाइसेंस का 26-3-1981 तक नवीकरण कर दिया गया है ।

गांव स्तर के कार्यकर्ता

3202. श्री राम लाल राही : क्या ग्रामीण पुनर्निर्माण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचारग्रामीण प्रशासनिक मशीनरी का पुनर्गठन करने सम्बन्धी मेहता आयोग द्वारा प्रस्तुत प्रतिवेदन के आधार पर विभिन्न राज्यों में ग्राम विकास यूनिटों में ग्राम स्तर के कार्यकर्ता नियुक्त करने का है; और