

done with regard to this disease and any cure prevention have been initiated ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to prevent Uzify infestation the Central Sericultural Research & Training Institute, Mysore, has invented a chemical called "Uzicide". Application of Uzicide on silkworm crops has resulted in better cocoon yields. The Board's Research Institutes have recommended a number of preventive measures like use of Kaolin on spinning silkworms in moun-tages, spraying of Dimilin to sterilize the Uzify maggots and application of Benzoic acid on silkworm crops. These measures have reduced the pest menace from 30% to about 6%.

Tourist facilities in West Bengal

512. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the West Bengal Government has submitted a Scheme for developing tourist facilities in that State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) when it was submitted to the Union Government; and

(d) action taken by Government so far ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) : (a) to (d) The examination consideration and sanction of central financial assistance to proposals received from the State Government is a continuous process. Schemes proposed by the State Government for central financial assistance are examined by the Ministry of Tourism, subject to availability of funds and inter-se-priorities.

News captioned 'Mission staff in US better over low pay'

513. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether local employees working in Indian Mission in the U.S.A. are reported to be sore over low pay and fringe benefits;

(b) if so, whether their grievances have been considered; and

(c) if so, whether any improvement is being effected in their pay and other benefits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. They are representing for higher wages and more benefits.

(b) and (c) Their demands are being examined and decisions will be taken in the light of financial implications, cost of living increases and existing norms relating to emoluments and service conditions of local employees in Indian Missions abroad.

India's proposal at Brussels ministerial meet

514. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India pressed for improved market access at the Brussels ministerial meet;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestion made; and

(c) the reaction of the European Economic Community thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b) India