

and as a result poor people belonging to other sections are unable to build houses on the sites allotted to them; and

(c) if so, whether the aid will be given for building houses to all those who are allotted land under the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) There is no provision of giving house sites to the landless including Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Rural Landless Employment Programme.

(b) The aid for the construction of houses is given under Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme only to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes belonging to the poorest of the poor category and the freed bonded labourers in the rural areas. There are many schemes of the Government under which aid for construction of houses are available to the general section of the population including poor people belonging to other sections.

(c) Since there is no land allotted under the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme, there is no question of giving aid for building houses under the Programme.

Rice Area Destroyed by Pest in A.P.

3444. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new pest namely "Bio type No. 4" has damaged rice crop in north coastal Andhra Pradesh during last year as well as in this Kharif season;

(b) if so, the steps taken to eliminate the

adverse impact of this pest; and

(c) the varieties of rice which are resistant to this pest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir. The rice gallmidge bio type No. 4 had damaged rice crop in parts of Srikakulam and Vizianagaram districts of Andhra Pradesh during last year as well as in this Kharif season.

(b) Seedling root dip in chlorpyrifos and carbofuran granule application was recommended in order to reduce the damage. Extension bulletin in local language covering all relevant information about the pest was prepared and distributed to farmers and extension workers.

(c) The rice cultures originating from cross between 'Swarnadhan' and 'Velluthanchecra' have been found resistant against new bio type of rice gallmidge. In addition, five promising cultures have been found resistant to this bio type.

[Translation]

Sub-Standard Material used for Houses by C.P.W.D. in D.I.Z. Area

3445. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the contractors engaged for construction of houses by C.P.W.D. in D.I.Z. area, Kali Bari Marg, New Delhi are using sub-standard bricks and lesser quantity of cement in the construction of these houses;

(b) if so, whether any inspection is conducted into the construction works going