

The land improvement works have shown marked effect on crop production along with higher soil and water conservation. The Operational Research Project on Composite Fish Culture has been shifted recently from West Bengal and it is still in formative stage at CIFA, Dhaul.

(b) to (d). The Krishi Vigyan Kendras and Operational Research Projects are directly funded by the I.C.A.R. These are given sufficient funds. Hence the question of paucity of fund with Orissa State Govt. does not arise.

Amendment to Insecticides Act, 1968

4987. DR. DIGVIJAY SINH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether considering the magnitude and complexity of the problems and the ill-effect of insecticides and pesticides, Union Government propose to amend the Insecticides Act, 1968; and

(b) if so, the scope of such amendment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) A proposal to amend the Insecticides Act, 1968, on the basis of the experience gained in administering it over a period of 18 years is under the consideration of Government.

(b) Amendments under consideration, include, inter-alia, a conceptual definition of 'insecticide' and matters concerning registration and offences.

[Translation]

Opening of rake points for better distribution of fertiliser

4989. SHRI K.N. PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for opening rake points in various States of the country;

(b) whether Government propose to open additional rake points for better distribution of fertiliser; and

(c) if so, the number of additional rake points proposed to be opened in Madhya Pradesh this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILISERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) The Ministry of Railways have declared a number of Railway stations/sidings as fit for handling traffic of various commodities such as coal, foodgrains, cement, fertilisers, etc., in block rakes.

(b) The Department of Fertilisers does not have any proposal at present for opening rake points exclusively for the distribution of fertilisers.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Changes in promotion/Transfer Policies of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

4990. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH:
SHRI MUHIRAM SAIKIA:
SHRI MANIK REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: