

[English]

Satellite Surveillance on Insects

2148. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether satellite surveillance is coming to the aid of scientists in tracking and zeroing in on deadly insects which spread diseases like malaria, sleeping sickness and yellow fever; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) :
(a) Yes, Sir. But limited to only Malaria.

(b) Department of Space, as an R&D effort, in collaboration with Malaria Research Centre of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), has carried out studies to identify the Mosquito breeding areas by analysing details on environmental variables such as waterbody, waterlogged areas, vegetation status, landuse/land cover, human settlement etc., derived from multigate satellite remote sensing data. Mosquitogeneic potential of six test sites of about 30 sq. km. area around Delhi suburbs were monitored during 1991-92 using multigate data from indigenous Indian Remote Sensing Satellites - IRS-1A/1B. A feasibility study on Malaria incidence through Malariogenic stratification was carried out for selected talukas of the Kheda district in Gujarat State. These studies have brought out the usefulness of satellite remote sensing to identify potential mosquito breeding

areas as well as in prioritising areas for taking up mosquito control programmes.

Budget Provision for Maritime Projects

2149. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Navy is considering commercial borrowings as part of its longterm plans to mop-up extra budgetary resources for executing its ongoing and new maritime projects;

(b) if so, the estimated amount to be raised by way of commercial loans; and

(c) the modalities worked out in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (c) Looking to the perception of security threats at any given time, efforts are made to ensure the availability of adequate funds in order to address our concerns in this regard. Presently, there is no proposal for the Indian Navy to go in for commercial borrowing.

Availability of Items on the Inventory of CSD (I)

2150. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether items on the inventory of CSD (I) particularly of refined quality are generally not available in the Army HQ Canteen at New Delhi consequent to which the employees have to circle it time and again;