

**Agriculture Subsidy to Farmers**

1057. SHRI BHABANI SHANKAR  
HOTA:  
SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRI-  
YAPPA:  
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE  
PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimated amount of agricultural subsidy provided to the farmers during the current year;

(b) whether the Government propose to abolish or curtail the subsidies on farm product, fertilizers etc, and

(c) if so, the impact of such policy changes in agricultural production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) An estimated amount of about Rs. 4244 crores would be provided to the farmers during the current year 1990-91.

(b) and (c). There is no proposal at present with the Government to stop the subsidy. No decision has been taken to reduce the existing subsidy.

**Use of Lethal Pesticides**

1058. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:  
SHRI BHABANI SHANKAR  
HOTA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether use of lethal pesticides such as DDT, BHC, Aldrin etc. has been

banned by the Western Countries;

(b) if so, whether their use not only continues in India but is also on the increase;

(c) if so, whether one-third of the pesticides poisoning cases in the third world are in India; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to check this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) Yes, Sir. Use of DDT, BHC, Aldrin etc. has been banned by some of the Western Countries.

(b) In India, use of DDT in Agriculture has been withdrawn. However, in special circumstances, the State Governments have been allowed to use DDT for plant Protection under expert Governmental supervision. Similarly for public health programme the use of DDT has been restricted to 10,000 MT per annum. BHC is not permitted for use on vegetables, fruits, oilseeds crops and preservation of foodgrains; and the use of Aldrin is recommended only for the purpose of termite control.

(c) There is no authentic information on this aspect.

(d) There is no evidence to show that poisoning cases are mostly from these three pesticides. However Government are concerned about poisoning from pesticides. Most of these areas relate to suicides attempts. Government has banned or restricted the use of some of the pesticides commonly responsible for poisoning cases Government has also been writing to the State Governments and Union Territories to be vigilant in preventing and in treating such cases.