

[*Translation*]

**Supply of Spurious Insecticides to
Farmers in Bihar**

223. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that farmers in Bihar are supplied spurious insecticides under popular brand names; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) No specific reports have been received regarding the supply of spurious insecticides under popular brand names to the farmers in Bihar. However, sample analysis statistics do reveal that about 20 to 25% samples drawn for analysis were sub-standard.

(b) The State has been advised to tighten the quality control arrangements and to strengthen its laboratory facilities to have an effective monitoring of quality of pesticides.

[*English*]

**Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Units
in Eastern Region**

224. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the growing demand of fertilizers in the Eastern Region Government are considering renovation of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation's units located in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). M/s. Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation (HFC) has an operating plant at Durgapur and a project at Haldia in West Bengal. A proposal for revamping the Durgapur plant with a view to improving its capacity utilisation to 100% at an estimated cost of Rs. 171.30 crores, is under consideration.

As the Haldia project could not be commissioned due to frequent equipment break-downs, a proposal to rehabilitate its Nitrophosphate group of plants has been approved, in principle, in the first instance. Although the demand for fertilizers in the eastern region is being met, improvement of performance of these plants will augment production and availability of fertilizers.

**Pending Claims under Comprehensive
Crop Insurance Scheme**

225. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of claims under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme pending payment and amount involved, State-wise;

(b) whether there is deep resentment among the farmers for the inordinate delay in settling their claims; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for speedy settlement of the claims and to avoid recurrence of delay in future?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) upto the end of Rabi 88-89 season, claims of Rs. 585.54