

(a) whether it is a fact that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of Orissa have asked the Union Government to release more funds to enable their children to pursue studies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the money shown in the non-plan expenditure for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the States Budget had not been granted by the State Government on the plea that the same had not been received from the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b) Certain M.L.As of Orissa have requested sanctioning of more funds to Orissa Government for Post-Matric scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(c) and (d). According to the existing norms in the matter of Post-Matric Scholarship, any State Government is to bear the expenditure upto the level of the last year of the Sixth Five Year Plan, which is treated as committed non-plan expenditure of the State. Central Government will bear cent percent of the additional expenditure over and above that committed liability of the State; the State Government will be reimbursed to that extent by the Central Government.

International Conference on Pesticides

2500. **SHRI AKHTAR HASAN :** Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an international conference on pesticides was held at Lucknow recently; and

(b) if so, the nature of the discussions held and the net outcome of the meet ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECH-

NOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir. An International Conference on Pesticides : Toxicity Safety and Risk Assessment was held during October 27-31, 1985 at Lucknow.

(b) In the conference relevant dimensions of the toxicity of pesticides, namely, methods of carrying out toxicity tests and their standardisation, toxicity due to different kinds of exposure during production, its handling, at its use, and short and long term commulative exposure effects, residual effects, problem of storage of pesticides and its intermediates and so on, were discussed.

Some of the important points that emerged were as follows :

- (1) Standardisation of various toxicity tests related to pesticides in the mammalian system, for aquatic flora and fauna and for different plant and animal species from the point of view of studying mutagenic, teratogenic and carcinogenic potential of various pesticides is required and practised uniformly all over the country.
- (2) Public need to be kept informed of the proper use of these pesticides and the harmful effects of it, if they do not follow the norms for their use. Various public bodies should enforce the safe use of pesticides at prescribed levels.
- (3) Specific studies and investigations that need to be carried out to understand the mechanism of the toxic effects of pesticides have been identified.
- (4) Safety requirements during manufacture of pesticides have to be outlined and made available to all staff connected with manufacture and public authorities.
- (5) During the registration of pesticides by the registration autho-

rities and during the declaration of possible ban on the use of particular pesticide adequate attention should be given to determine the risks versus benefit ratio.

- (6) During manufacture of pesticides where potentially highly toxic chemicals are to be utilized, all precautionary measures should be undertaken to store those chemicals only for a short period of time and to convert them immediately into relatively less harmful and less toxic pesticidal chemicals.
- (7) Every pesticides industry should have adequate safety measures.

The national institutions engaged in the area of toxicological research are dealing with many of the research problems suggested during the course of the discussions. But much more emphasis is needed in standardizing the methods and techniques and generation of toxicity data and their transmission to the enforcement bodies for day-to-day working.

Adoption of children by foreigners

2501. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of children given as wards to foreigners during last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the names of the countries in which Indian children are in demand for adoption;
- (c) the names of the States from which the children were given to foreigners for adoption;
- (d) whether there have been noticed 'baby hunger' in the West and the children sent abroad assimilated well there;
- (e) whether Government are aware that the children sent abroad are used for medical experimentation and immoral purposes; and

(f) if so, the norms and procedures laid down and other action taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) As per information received from some High Courts/District Courts, foreign nationals obtained the guardianship of 1736, 906 and 696 children under the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890, during the years 1982, 1983 and 1984 respectively.

(b) The Indian children are being taken for ultimate adoption largely by adoptive parents in Australia, Denmark, Belgium, France, Holland, Italy, Netherland, Norway, Switzerland, Sweden U. S. A., West Germany.

(c) Mostly children are being taken for adoption from the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, West Bengal, and Union Territories of Delhi, Goa, Daman and Diu and Pondichery.

(d) The Government is not aware of any 'baby-hunger' in the West. The Ministry of Welfare is periodically informing the Indian Embassies or High Commissions in the countries about the particulars of the prospective adoptive parents as well as of children so that the Embassies/High Commissions may keep an eye on the welfare and progress of such children.

(e) A case of abuse was reported. The foreign parent was convicted and jailed for abuse of his adopted daughter.

(f) In compliance with the norms and procedure laid down by the Supreme Court Judgements in Writ Petition (CRL) No. 1171 by Shri Laxmi Kant Pandey, only such social/child welfare agencies as have been recognised by the Government can sponsor and process cases of inter-country adoption in the competent Indian courts. Similarly, only foreign social/child welfare agencies as have been enlisted by the Government of India on the recommendations of our Missions abroad or the governments of foreign countries can approach recognised