

poultry feed by providing modern techniques and expertise;

(c) whether Government also propose to allow the big industries to produce certain percentage of the total requirement of poultry feed if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The State Governments have been advised to meet the requirement of molasses for the manufacturing units for cattle/poultry feed etc. The distribution criteria of molasses between Small Scale Units and others is with the State Governments. Molasses is not the main ingredient used for the production of compound feed and concentrates for feeding milch animals.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). At present, the manufacture of poultry feed is reserved for exclusive development in the small scale sector. Hence, the question of allowing the big industries to produce poultry feed does not arise except the organised sector units who were engaged in the manufacture of this product prior to the date of reservation (i.e. December, 1978). The capacity of these units have been pegged to the maximum production attained by any of these units during the three years prior to the date of reservation.

Banerjee Committee on pesticide

3149. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Banerjee Committee has appointed to study and advice on food residues of pesticides and general environmental pollution caused by these hazardous compounds and if so, whether the Committee has completed its tasks;

(b) what are the main recommendations of this Committee and action taken thereon; and

(c) whether all dangerous and hazardous pesticides will be withdrawn or banned in the country and recourse taken to products such as Neem and Integrated Pest Managements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). No such Committee has been set up. However, a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.N. Banerjee was set up in August, 1984 to examine the continued use in India of pesticides which have been banned or restricted for use in other countries. This Committee has already submitted its Report on DDT, BHC, Aldrin, Dieldrin, Chlordane, Heptachlor and EDB. The Report of the Committee on BHC has been accepted by Government. Action will be taken on the other reports of the Committee after their examination and final decision on them.

(c) Dangerous pesticides are not registered in India by the Registration Committee constituted under the Insecticides Act, 1968 due to reasons of safety to human-beings and animals. Besides, as and when any information about the dangerous and hazardous effects of any pesticide registered in the country comes to the notice of the Registration Committee, corrective measures like phasing out, restricting or banning of such pesticides in the country are promptly taken.

Insecticides based upon neem are yet to become commercially available. However, the Government has initiated appropriate action to encourage the concept of integrated pest management for the benefit of farmers.