

years, many farmers have become defaulters in repayment of loans;

(b) if so, their number ; and

(c) the special measures being taken to help the farmers who have run into default?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI) : (a) to (c). Due to successive natural calamities for three or more years many farmers have become defaulters. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have extended special concessions for them which, inter-alia, include

- (i) deferment of recovery of crop loans falling due on account of principal as well as interest in the current year for a period of 2 years or till the next normal year by the State Cooperative Banks/ Central Cooperative Banks/ Regional Rural Banks;
- (ii) Grant of conversion/reschedule-ment facility to the affected borrowers,
- (iii) reduction in the rate of interest on converted/rescheduled loans not exceeding Rs. 5000/-,
- (iv) exemption of penal interest on loans upto Rs. 25,000/-
- (v) exemption of compound interest on the converted/rescheduled dues.

V-2500 Engines for Indian Airlines Planes

1922. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE

PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian airlines had decided to power their planes with

v-2500 engines to be manufactured by International Aero Engines;

(b) if so, whether these engines have developed some problems; and

(c) if so, the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTILAL VORA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). V-2500 engine is undergoing development programme. M/s. International Aero Engines, manufacturers of V-2500 engines, had reported some problems in the compressor section of this engine during testing , which, as confirmed by the manufacturers, are being sorted out after due analysis and modifications. The engine is due for type certification in June, 1988 and for entry into service in April, 1989.

Protection Against Pesticides

1923. PROF. K.V.THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is following the voluntary code of the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organisation to protect the farmers against the harmful effect of pest killers;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to create an awareness among farmers about the use of pesticides and their bad effects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL