

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND WORKS  
AND HOUSING (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) to (d) The Scheme for Environmental Improvement in slum areas is operated in the State Sector as part of the Minimum Needs Programme. The State Government has prepared a project for urban development in Bombay which includes proposals for the upgradation of slums involving about one lakh households. This project is under consideration for assistance by the World Bank.

**Asian Games Projects Constructed through  
Contractors and by N.B.C.C.**

184. SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDA-  
VATE: Will the Minister of WORKS AND  
HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the planned projects for the 9th Asian Games, supervised constructed and carried out through contractors and by the National Buildings Construction Corporation;

(b) the details of the projects completed in time for the use of the Asiad;

(c) the action taken against the contractors for the non-completion or incomplete projects; and

(d) details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND WORKS  
AND HOUSING (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

**Haarduous Pesticides**

185. SHRI BAL KRISHNA WASNIK:  
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of  
the hazards from pesticides; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken or are proposing to take to curb the manufacture and distribution for use of such pesticides, which have been proved as excessively toxic or hazardous and which have been identified as such by the World Health Organisation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE  
(RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.  
(b) The Registration Committee constituted under section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968, ensures that only safe and efficacious insecticides are registered for import or manufacture in the country. Some of the steps taken by the Registration Committee to ensure safety of insecticides are given below:

(i) 18 of the highly hazardous pesticides have not been approved for registration by the Registration Committee.

(ii) Endrin, and Ethyl Parathion have also been phased out in the country because of high toxicity.

(iii) Two insecticides, viz., Toxaphene and DBCP although originally registered are not permitted for import in the country.

(iv) Recently on account of adverse effect of Nitrofen, its manufacture has been withdrawn voluntarily.

Out of 118 registered pesticides now available for use in India, only 7 belong to the extremely haardous group of pesticides as classified by the WHO. These are used under certain specific and restricted conditions. They are (a) Aldicarb (b) Calcium cyanide (c) Methyl Parathion (d) Phorate (e) Chlorofenbephos (f) Phosphamiden and (g) Phenyl mercury acetate.

With a view to prevent further risk to the environment, human health and ecosystem, the Registration Committee has decided to constitute a Committee to review the specific pesticides being used in agriculture and public health programmes for identifying the safer substitutes and cancelling the registration of those chemicals which could be eliminated at this stage.