

(a) whether D.D.T. worth a crore of rupees remains unprocessed and is still lying in the Government godowns;

(b) if so, when this chemical was imported by Government from the United States; and

(c) the reasons for not getting it processed so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING, AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a) Yes.

(b) This was imported during the period between November, 1968 to June, 1970.

(c) The delay in the formulation of the D.D.T. has been due to the performance of the indigenous formulators falling short of the expectation for lack of adequate know-how and equipment. Every effort is being made to get the D.D.T. processed as quickly as possible.

Allocation of fund for Slum Clearance in Maharashtra

4571. SHRI SONAVANE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount allotted to the State of Maharashtra for the slum clearance during the last three years; and

(b) whether any amount allotted to the State Government for this purpose has lapsed; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING, AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH) : (a) and (b). During the years 1967-68 and 1968-69, central assistance amounting to Rs. 59 lakhs and Rs. 24.85 lakhs respectively was allocated to the Government of Maharashtra for the Slum Clearance/Improve-

ment Scheme, out of which Rs. 47.81 lakhs and Rs. 22.84 lakhs respectively were drawn by them.

No central assistance has been allocated specifically for the Slum Clearance/Improvement Scheme during the year 1969-70, as with effect from the 1st April, 1969, this scheme has been transferred to the State Sector. Since then central assistance to the State Governments for all development programmes in the state sector, including slum clearance scheme, is being provided in the form of 'block loans' and 'block grants'. The States are free to allocate funds for various schemes according to requirements and priorities fixed by them.

Ban on sale of Sodium Cyclamate

4572. SHRI M. SUDARSANAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to ban the sale of Sodium Cyclamate; if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(b) which are the other countries which have banned Sodium Cyclamate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING, AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a) There is at present no proposal to ban the sale of Sodium Cyclamate or its preparations as sweetening agents. The use of Sodium Cyclamate as pharmaceutical necessity in the manufacture of formulations is not permitted and its use in the food industry is banned under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act. But the ban on sale is under consideration.

(b) As far as Government are aware, the sale of Sodium Cyclamate is banned in the United States of America.

Setting up of Family Planning Centres in Rural areas of West Bengal

4573. SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY