

Reduction in period for resumption of commuted value of pension

536. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision in the Central Pension Rules that the payment of commuted value of pension be resumed after 15 years of retirement;

(b) whether there is any proposal to reduce the period from 15 years to 12 years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Under the existing orders the commuted portion of pension is restored after completion of 15 years from the date of commutation.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Pesticide poisoning

537. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that pesticides were first developed as patent poisons for chemical warfare and are highly poisonous;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the occupational health hazards for workers, sprayers, and if so, the details of such cases recorded every year for past three years;

(c) whether there are over 50 pesticides factories and 800 formulation plants in the country and if so, the details of illnesses reported/recorded from them, State-wise;

(d) whether pesticide poisoning is proposed to be made notifiable through an ordinance; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Safety of pesticides to man and environment is first scrutinized before allowing its safe and judicious use. Details of occupational health hazards and illnesses are, however, not reported/recorded under the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Already suitable provisions exist under Section 26 of the Insecticides Act, 1968.

Development of safe pesticide substitutes

538. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Indian firms are now investing in developing safe pesticide substitutes to replace the pesticides already available in the Rs. 1200 crore pesticide market in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of plant pesticide products available in the market; and

(d) the details of biological pesticides available in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Yes Madam. Several Indian Research Institutions both in private and public sector have made investments aimed at developing and manufacturing safer pesticides and bio-control agents. Amongst the public sector institutions the Indian Institute for Chemical Technology (IICT), Hyderabad, and

R&D Laboratories of Hindustan Insecticides Limited are prominent. In the private sector a number of companies have taken steps to replace conventional pesticides with new and safer ones. Some examples are: Thiadiazuron (Weedicide), Chlorsulphur (Weedicide), Lamba Cyhalothrin (Synthetic Pyrethroid), S-senadalerate (Synthetic Pyrethroid), S-flupyphrinat (Synthetic Pyrethroid), S-flucalinate (Synthetic Pyrethroid), & Glyphosate (Weedicide). Some of the Industries concerned are Lupin Laboratories, Aurangabad, Gujarat Insecticide Ltd., Indophil, Gujarat, Ranbaxy-Montari Industries, Chandigarh, Nophil Company Ltd., Pune and others. The Ministry of Agriculture through its Integrated Pest Management Programme (IPM) and the Department of Biotechnology through its National Biological Control Programme are developing and evaluating a number of biological pest control agents against some major crop pests.

(c) A few neem based products (Botanical Pesticides) have been developed for marketing by Indian Companies. Examples are Neemark, Nemocide, Repellin, Nemex, Crop-guard, Azabin, Margoside, Neem-guard, Margosal, Kemisal, Neemplus, Biosol, and Nimbecidine.

(d) Except for the neem based products there are no other botanical pesticides available in the market. A private commercial insectory "Bio-control Research Laboratories" located at Bangalore has been supplying in a very small scale parasites and predators as beneficial insects for biological control of agricultural, Horticultural, plantation and other pests.

Pollution-oriented Industries

539. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the industries which have been declared as pollution-oriented in the country;

(b) the policy of the Government towards expansion of such units;

(c) whether the Government have decided not to allow or grant licences for expansion of such industries within city limits; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (d) List of industries which have been identified as highly polluting industries is given in attached statement. Letters of Intent granted for these industries are converted into Industrial Licence only after the following three conditions are fulfilled by the industrial undertakings:—

- (i) The Director of Industries of the concerned State Government confirms that the site of the project has been approved from the environmental angle by the competent state authority.
- (ii) The entrepreneur commits both to the State and Central Governments that the appropriate equipments will be installed and the prescribed measures for the prevention and control of pollution will be implemented.
- (iii) The concerned State Pollution Control Board certifies that the proposal meets with the environmental requirements and that the equipments installed or proposed to be installed are adequate and appropriate to the requirements.

As per the existing locational policy of the Government, exemption from licensing is not available for locating projects within specified distance of Cities with population of 7.5 lakhs and above and Standard Urban area or municipal limits of other Cities and towns. Exemption from locational restrictions within this area, is permitted only for