

considered for STD facility later in the 8th Plan period.

[English]

### Prices of Pesticides and Fungicides

7250. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of pesticides and fungicides have increased exorbitantly, placing heavy burden on the agricultural users; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken or propose to control their prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) The prices of commonly used insecticides (Technical Grade A) registered price rise ranging from 5% to 15% in 1989 over 1988.

(b) To ensure availability of pesticides at reasonable prices to agricultural users, the Government has placed certain pesticides on 'Open General Licence' for import purposes and reduced import duty on some pesticides and raw materials. Besides, the indigenous production of technical grade pesticides and their formulations is being encouraged.

### Electronic Telephone Exchange at Junagarh

7251. SHRI G.K. SHEKHADA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up or convert electronic exchange in Junagarh district of Gujarat State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the present position in the district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) There is a proposal to set up an Electronic Exchange at Junagarh.

(b) A 1500 lines C-DOT type of electronic exchange has been allotted for the year 1991-92. The present position of the Crossbar exchange is

---

i) Capacity	: 7000 lines
ii) Working connections	: 5933
iii) Waiting list	: 3

---

The Electronic Exchange as at (a) above will be in addition.

### Use of Banned Pesticides

7252. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether pesticides which are banned in the developed countries are still being used in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to stop the use of these pesticides in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) and (b). Some of the pesticides, which are banned/restricted in some countries are in use in India. The details are given in statement-I below.