

the weaker sections among the farmers as was done for exporting rubber in 1971 ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) An outlay of Rs. 5 crore has been provided as Central share for development of coconut in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(b) State Government of Kerala have introduced a scheme for purchase of copra this year at Rs. 1200/- per quintal. There is a proposal with the Government of India for market intervention operation for copra in collaboration with the State Government to help the coconut farmers.

(c) There is no proposal to export copra on large scale at present. However, it has been decided to allow export of copra/coconut products to Nepal upto 500 metric tonnes during 1985-86.

#### Adverse effects of pesticides

\*303. SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the increased use of pesticides is resulting in heavy toll of human and animal life and ecological imbalances and if so, the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken;

(b) whether statistics are available on the effect of pesticides on human life in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these pesticides are more harmful to under-nourished persons exposed to them; and

(d) the quantity of pesticides imported and value thereof in foreign exchange during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c). It is not a fact that the increased use of pesticides is resulting in heavy toll of human and animal life and ecological imbalances. It is a fact that though all pesticides are poisonous in nature, but they do not produce any harmful effect if used judiciously and as per the elaborate instructions prescribed.

2. The consumption of pesticides in the country, at present, is very low as compared to many other countries. The consumption per hectare per annum in India is only 295 grams, which is nearly half the quantity used in the United States of America, one-thirtieth of the quantity used in Japan and one-fortieth of the quantity used in Hungary and Italy.

3. While registering the pesticides, due care is taken by the Statutory Registration Committee to ensure that adequate safety precautions are laid down and further that the level of residues are within the prescribed tolerance limits. The dosages of pesticides, the mode of use, the precautions to be taken are all clearly prescribed. These requirements form part of the instructions contained in the labels and leaflets supplied with the containers of pesticides. The Registration Committee also insists on generation and submission by the registrants, of health monitoring data on workers who are engaged in spraying operations under normal agricultural practices. If, based on national and international studies, any pesticide is found to have undesirable effects on human beings, animals or on any other component of the environment, the Registration Committee may decide to ban or restrict the use of or phase out the particular pesticide. So far, the Registration Committee has refused or postponed registration of 18 pesticides, phased out two; refused import of another two and allowed only restricted use of two other pesticides.

4. There are no countrywide statistics available on effect of pesticides on human health. However, there have been sporadic reports about accidental poisoning due to negligence in the use of the pesticides.

5. There is no scientific information available as regards the effect of pesticides on undernourished persons.

(d) As contained in the publication 'Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India' of the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, the following quantities of pesticides including insecticides, fungicides, weed killers etc., were imported during the years 1981-82 and 1982-83 (upto February 1983) :

Year	Qty in tonnes	Approximate Value (Rs. in lakhs)
1981-82	4,393 (Revised Figures)	1,200
1982-83 (Upto February, 1983)	11,692*	2,900

(\* Based on advance data with Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics)

The information for the subsequent period has not become available.

The information about the imports, the names of the pesticides imported and the countries of their export is published in the publication entitled 'Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India-Vol. II-Imports', copies of which are made available in the Parliament Library.

**Allotment of additional plots to Government Servants Co-Operative House Building Society, Vasant Vihar By DDA**

3039. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal of the Government Servants Cooperative House Building Society, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi for allotment of land for development of additional plots in Shantiniketan is under consideration of the DDA; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal under consideration and the approximate time by which the proposal for additional plots is likely to be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

#### Import of Skimmed Milk Powder

3040. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) month-wise quantity of skimmed milk powder received/procured from abroad, country-of-origin-wise during Sixth Plan period and how it was utilised;

(b) how much of the skimmed milk powder received from abroad was kept in buffer stock and the quantity thus available on 1st April during Sixth Plan period, year-wise; and

(c) whether any commercial import of skimmed milk powder is proposed during Seventh Plan period and if so, reasons for reversing policy after a decade ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The quarterwise receipt of skimmed milk powder (SMP) from European Economic Community (EEC) Cooperative League of USA (CLUSA) and World Food Programme (WFP) by the Indian Dairy Corporation (IDC) under Operation Flood Programme during 1980 to 1985 is furnished in the statement given below. The SMP received under Operation Flood-I was supplied to metro dairies and Pilot Project/Sugam Dairy, Boroda. The SMP received from EEC under Operation Flood-II Project was pooled with indigenously procured SMP and issued by the IDC to the public and cooperative dairies. After meeting the requirement of liquid milk plants for regeneration into milk, a limited quantity of commodities was issued to the dairies in 1980 and 1981 for manufacture of baby food and ghee. However, from 1982, the commodities have been allotted by the IDC to the public and cooperative dairy plants for regeneration into milk only.

(b) The pooled buffer stock of SMP available at the beginning of each financial year during the Sixth Plan period is as under :