

dealing with exclusively water supply and sanitation but it should have a corporation of urban development which should give some kind of help on assistance. Certain proposals were made by the study group. Even the money required was suggested and the study group said that this should be done. The Ministry of Works & Housing supported it. But the Planning Commission has said that they should have a corporation on urban development which would include sanitation and other things. So, a suggestion by the Ministers' conference was there. The Ministry of Works and Housing supported it. The Study Group went into it. But the Planning Commission so far has, in principle agreed, to setting an urban development corporation which will also include infrastructural provisions and facilities for water supply and sanitation. To that extent, my answer is correct. It is not yet found out what amount should be given. That is why I said that the discussions are going on in the Planning Commission.

As far as urban water supply and sanitation is concerned, I do not say that they are adequate. There is no Corporation. But there are six or seven other sources.

If the hon. Member wants to know from which provision this is made, I can give him the details. I have got all the details and figures with me.

[English]

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Effect of Insecticides on Human Health

*287. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :
SHRI AMARSINH PATHAWA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any efforts to find out the effect of excessive use of insecticides on the human health while using it for agriculture purposes ;

(b) if so, what are the findings ; and

(c) what provision has been made to educate the farmers to take precautions before using such insecticides ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) There is no excessive use of insecticides in agriculture in India. The consumption of insecticides in the country, at present, is very low as compared to many other countries. The table below gives the available figures of consumption in some of the countries :

Country	Level of consumption (Kg/ha) in 1982.
India	0.295
Indonesia	0.575
Japan	9.180
Republic of Korea	6.559
Hungary	12.573
Italy	13.335
U.S.A.	0.615

2. Various organisations in the Central Government like the National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad under the Indian Council of Medical Research, the Industrial Toxicologic Research Centre, Lucknow, under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, have conducted studies on various toxicological aspects of insecticides which, *inter alia* include their effects on human-beings. Studies on the effects on human beings are made under normal use pattern of insecticides and not under excessive use.

3. It is an admitted 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 instruction prescribed. While registering the insecticides, 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 limit. The dosages of insecticides to be used in agriculture, the mode of use, the precautions to be taken are all clearly rescribed. These requirements from part of the instructions contained in the labels and leaflets supplied with the containers of insecticides. With the awareness created among the farmers regarding the proper and judicious use of insecticides, it has been observed that, by and large, their use has been in accordance with well laid down instructions.

4. The Registration Committee constituted under the Insecticides Act insists on generation and submission by the registrants, of health monitoring data on workers who are engaged in spraying operations under normal agriculture practices. This data requirement is very exacting and is closely screened by the Registration Committee. There have been many instances when the Registration Committee was not satisfied with the data presented and asked for further trials to be made for more reliable data. The data, so required, relates to various parameters under different agro-climatic conditions in India through Agricultural Universities, ICAR and other Government/reputed institutions. If a particular insecticide is found to be phytotoxic (poisonous to the plant), or non effective against the target pests or diseases or unsafe to human beings or animals, the Registration Committee denies registration of such an insecticide. Also, if, based on national and international studies, any insecticide 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 insecticide. So far, the Registration Committee has refused or postponed registration of 18 insecticides, phased out two; refused import of another two and allowed only restricted use of two other insecticides.

(c) The following precautionary and educational steps have been taken :—

(i) Under the provisions of Insecticides Rules, 1971 it is manda-

tory on the part of manufacturers of insecticides to provide labels and leaflets containing the prescribed safety precautions symptoms of poisoning, instructions for first aid and emergency treatment etc. These are printed in Hindi, English and also in one of the regional languages to help the farmers to follow the instructions. The leaflets contain the recommended doses and methods of application to avoid any possible health hazard due to wrong usage of insecticides.

(ii) It is also provided under the said Rules that the persons handling insecticides during their manufacture, formulation, transport, distribution or application shall be adequately protected with appropriate clothing with respiratory devices, etc.

(iii) Apart from the above, the labels also display a prominent code triangle in different colours viz., red, yellow, blue and green indicating the degree of toxicity. It makes even the uneducated farmer understand the potential hazards of a particular insecticide and the safety requirements to be followed by him.

(iv) The Central Plant Protection Training Institute at Hyderabad is imparting training to the functionaries from States/UTs in the field of plant protection. These trainees in turn, disseminate the information to the farmers. Training courses lay adequate emphasis on safe use of insecticides.

(v) Special training programmes are also organised for the agricultural aviation pilots to educate them in the safe handling of insecticides, their hazards to the human beings, cattle and environment etc.

(vi) The Central Directorate of Extension, through its various pro-

grammes, educate the farmers about the safe handling of insecticides.

- (vii) The State Departments of agriculture organise 'Krishi Melas' and 'Shivirs' before each principal cropping season. The safe use of insecticides forms an essential feature. Besides, some States also organise regular training programmes for the farmers.
- (viii) For popularising the concept of integrated Pest Management, the Central Surveillance Stations of the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage have adopted a number of villages in various parts of the country. Under this programme, the farmers are specifically apprised about the safe and effective use of insecticides.
- (ix) Moreover, other national institutions like the National Institute of Occupational Health are also imparting training for safe use of insecticides to farmers as well as to manufacturers.

Allocation of land to Jawaharlal Nehru Group Housing Society

*289. SHRI PRYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jawaharlal Nehru Group Housing Cooperative Society of M.P.'s and ex-M.P.'s has made any appeal formally for allotment of land for the society;

(b) if so, when;

(c) the position regarding allotment of land and location thereof; and

(d) if land is not being allotted, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir. The society was registered with the

Registrar of Cooperative Societies on 22nd December, 1983 and it later approached the Government for considering allotment of land in West or South Delhi.

(c) and (d) The matter is receiving attention of the Government.

Unemployment Allowance

290. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the number of unemployed graduate youths is increasing day by day;

(b) if so, whether keeping in view the critical unemployment problem in the country, Government now propose to provide unemployment allowance to unemployed persons; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government has no proposal to provide Unemployment Allowance to unemployed persons.

(c) Payment of Unemployment Allowance to the unemployed would have large financial implications. The Central Government feels that the resources at its command should be utilised on schemes which generate productive and enduring employment opportunities rather than on schemes such as providing unemployment allowance.

[Translation]

Legislation for Agricultural Labour

*292. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to enact legislation for agricultural labourers at an all India level;

(b) if so, whether of late demand for