

Pesticides poisoning half a Million people a Year in underdeveloped countries

*860. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a study titled 'Circle of poison' to the effect that pesticides are poisoning half a million people a year in underdeveloped countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION AND IRRIGATION AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) The study as such has not become available, but the attention of the Government has been drawn to news reports mentioning a study titled 'Circle of Poison' made in the U.S.A.

(b) These news reports have mentioned that the new US Administration has lifted a ban on export of pesticides etc. whose manufacture or use has been banned in the United States of America. They have also stated that huge quantities of these banned chemicals are being exported to several developing countries. Particular reference has been made to two chemicals, namely, DBCP (Dibromochloropropane) and PHOSVEL (Laptophos). It has been alleged that these chemicals have very harmful effects.

(c) The Registration Committee took note of the information received from our Embassy in Washington about the harmful effects of PHOSVEL (Laptophos), and refused registration for this chemical in May, 1977. As regards, DBCP (Dibromochloropropane), though it was registered in the first instance, the Registration Committee decided in September 1977 that import of this

pesticides should be discontinued. Hence, import of both these chemicals is now not permitted.

Rural Reconstruction in M.P. during Sixth Plan

*861. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount earmarked for rural reconstruction in Madhya Pradesh during the Sixth Plan period;

(b) the nature of schemes that are proposed to be taken up under this programme; and

(c) whether the areas to be developed have since been identified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) and (b). An amount of Rs. 164.86 crores has been provided for rural development programmes in Madhya Pradesh in the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980—85), as per details given below:—

(Rupees in lakhs)

A. Community Development Programme :

(1) National Rural Employment Programme	7882.00
(2) Gramoday Programme	761.60
(3) Applied Nutrition Programme	117.20
(4) Area Development Programme	242.90
(5) Strengthening Development Administration	487.20
(6) Rural Engineering Service	465.10
(7) Construction of Rural Godowns	98.00

B. Special Schemes :

(1) Integrated Rural Development Programme	5300.00
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(2) Drought Prone Area programme	1200.00
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Total	16486.00
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or	186.86 crores.

(c) Programmes like Drought Prone Area Programme, Applied Nutrition Programme, Area Development Programme and the scheme for construction of Rural Godowns are implemented in selected areas while programmes like Integrated Rural Development Programme, National Rural Employment Programme are implemented in all the blocks in the State.

Setting up of an Electronic Telephone Exchange

*862. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have floated tenders for setting up an Electronic Telephone Exchange in the country;

(b) whether some firms have responded to the tender;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have arrived at any decision to award the work;

(e) whether the place where this exchange will be located has been identified; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (f). A statement giving the details is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha.

Statement

The P&T Department has floated 4 tenders for setting up local electronic telephone exchanges. Details are as given below:—

2. Tender for import of large electronic exchanges.

This tender consists of 3 exchanges each of capacity 10,000 lines to be installed at—

(a) Bombay Cooperage Exchange;

(b) Delhi Tis Hazari Exchange;

(c) Calcutta Telephone Bhavan Exchange.

The following firms had responded to this tender:

(1) Nissho-Iwata Co. Ltd. Japan.

(2) C. Itoh Co. Ltd. Japan

(3) Mitsubishi Corporation, Japan.

(4) M/s Nippon Electric Co. Japan.

(5) M/s. CSF Thomson, France.

(6) M/s. ELEKTRIM, Poland.

(7) M/s. CIT Alcatel, France.

(8) M/s. General Telephone and Electronic International Inc. U.S.A.

(9) M/s. L. M. Ericsson. Sweden.

(10) BEL Telephone Manufacturing Co., Belgium.

(11) M/s. Philips Telecommunicatie Industrie bv, Holand.

(12) Compagnie Generale de Constructions Telephoniques, France.

The evaluation of the tenders is in the final stage.

3. Tender for small exchanges.

This tender is for an aggregate of 60,000 lines of exchanges with sizes 200 lines, 400 lines and 600 lines. Tenderers have been allowed to quote for