

Mini Mission Projects in districts of Koraput, Mayurbhanj, Phulbani and in five blocks of Ganjam district. Besides schemes of installation of Iron Removal Plants, Water Harvesting Structures, Setting up of district level laboratories are being implemented in different parts of the State.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) DANIDA (Danish International Development Agency) assisted Project is being implemented in the districts of Cuttack, Balasore and Puri for 3096 villages at an estimated cost of Rs. 41 crores.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The review has brought out that presence of iron and subsequent development of iron bacteria and sulphide reducing bacteria make the water from the wells undesirable for human consumption. Leakage of saline water from shallow and deep zones sometimes due to overdrawal of water for other purposes is also responsible for failure of tubewells. In August, 1990 an agreement was reached between Government of Orissa and DANIDA for rephrasing the implementation of the project for rehabilitation of failed wells from the earlier executed programme. Detailed exploration by drilling and rehabilitation of old wells will be the main theme of project to be executed from April, 1991.

[*Translation*]

Spurious Pesticides

1213. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether spurious chemicals of agricultural use like pesticides and zinc sulphate are being sold in the States of Bihar and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the action being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) No specific information about the sale of spurious chemicals of agricultural use has been received from the States of Bihar and West Bengal. However, during 1989-90, a total of 183 and 174 samples of pesticides were analysed for Bihar and West Bengal respectively in the Central insecticides Laboratory out of which 17.5% and 5.7% respectively were found sub-standard. Regarding zinc sulphate, 51 samples were analysed from the State of Bihar in the Central Fertiliser Quality Control and Training Institute and 31.4% samples were found to be spurious. No sample of zinc sulphate had been received in the said Institute from the State of West Bengal.

(b) As per the rules and instructions State Governments launch prosecutions against dealers and manufacturers involved in selling spurious agro chemicals. These have been launched in these two State Governments on the merits of analysis reports. Central Government have been impressing on these two and other State and Union Territory Governments to constantly check on quality of agro chemicals sold in the market and to initiate appropriate administrative and legal action wherever possible. This point is also impressed in the Zonal Conferences with State Governments.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply at (b) above.