

Integrated programme for Development of Cattle and Milk in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh

*484. SHRI S. S. SOMANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme under the consideration of Government for undertaking an integrated programme for the development of cattle and milk in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh with the assistance of World Bank;

(b) if so, whether the delegation consisting of the officers of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh have visited the USA at the invitation of World Bank for discussion regarding the scheme; and

(c) if so, the details regarding the decision of Government?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Yes, Sir, such a Scheme was sanctioned in the year 1974.

(b) Yes, Sir, a delegation of the Officers of Government of India, Government of Rajasthan, Government of Madhya Pradesh and ARDC visited U.S.A. during the month of October, 1974.

(c) Schemes for integrated Cattle-cum-dairy development programmes in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh amounting to Rs. 41.44 crores and Rs. 25.00 crores respectively were sanctioned by the Government of India under World Bank Assistance.

Proposal for Brahmaputra-Ganga Canal

*485. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for a Brahmaputra-Ganga Canal; and

(b) if so, whether the techno-economic survey for this canal has been completed?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) The Brahmaputar Ganga Link is one of the schemes contemplated for the augmentation of the dry season flows of the Ganga.

(b) No, Sir.

Danger in Excessive use of Insecticides and Pesticides

*486. SHRI PRAMANAND GOVINDJIWALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) are Government aware of the dangers of excessive use of insecticides and pesticides; and

(b) if so, the measures to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The import manufacture and use of pesticides in the country are being regulated under the insecticides Act, 1968 (as amended upto date) with a view to prevent risk to human beings and animals. The possible hazards of environmental pollution due to use of pesticides and the measures to check them are also being considered by the Pesticides environmental Pollution Advisory Committee set up under Section 6 of the Act. Further to save the human beings from the ill effects of excessive pesticides residues and to evolve good agricultural practices, maximum limits of their presence in food commodities are prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.