

**Accessibility of research scholars to official documents**

554. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Researchers/Scholars are allowed access to official documents after 30 years;

(b) whether it is a fact that some scholars have been given access to such documents while others have been denied such permission;

(c) which authority is competent to take final decisions;

(d) whether statutorily enforceable rules have been framed on the subject; and

(e) whether Government propose to enact a comprehensive law and also to promulgate clear rules on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Permission is not required by bona-fide researchers/scholars to consult 30 years old 'open category records' housed in the National Archives of India. However, permission of the records creating agency is required for consultation of such records as are classified or are of sensitive nature.

(d) and (e) Statutory Rules under the Public records Act, 1993 are being framed.

**Newspaper Report on Banned Pesticides**

555. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:  
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:  
SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:  
SHRI CHATURANAN  
MISHRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report in Indian Express of 23rd October, 1995 under the caption "Banned pesticides leave residue in food";

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard;

(c) whether BHC and DDT were long ago put on the list of 'extinct' pesticides in developed countries, but India has failed to do so yet; if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps Government have so far taken in this regard; and

(d) to what extent these pesticides are affecting the vegetables, fruits, cereals and the health of the people who are consuming these products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). In 1989, the Government has banned the use of DDT in agriculture and its use in public health has been restricted to 10,000 MT per annum. Further the use of BHC has been banned on fruits, vegetables, oilseed crops and preservation of foodgrain. The proposal to impose complete ban on the use of BHC after March 31, 1997 is under process. Sample analysis of 84 specimens of vegetables and cereals undertaken during 1994-95, revealed that the BHC residue, wherever detected, was below the limit prescribed under the PF Act and DDT residue, wherever detected was below the limit prescribed by Codex Alimentarius Commission.

Further, the Government is advocating

and promoting the technology of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in cereal, oilseeds and vegetables which envisages cultural, mechanical, biological method and need based use of pesticides. The use of safer alternatives like biopesticides; *Bacillus Thuringiensis* (b.t.) and *Bacillus sphaericus* (B.s.) and Neem based pesticides are being encouraged by the Government.

#### Production of Cotton

556. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the per hectare production of Cotton at the time of inception of the Cotton Corporation of India;

(b) the average rate of per hectare production of cotton in the country during the year 1994-95;

(c) whether the average rate of production of Cotton in the country is quite low in comparison to the World average;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the average cotton production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) As per the official estimates, the per hectare production of cotton at the time of inception of Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) i.e. 1969-70, was 122 kgs.

(b) The estimated average yield of cotton during 1994-95 in the country is 260 kgs. per hectare.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The main reasons for low average yield of cotton in the country are : about two-third area under cotton being rainfed low rate of adoption of improved technology by the farmers multiplicity of varieties with very low coverage of certified seeds; low

application of fertilizers and right type of pesticides.

(e) In order to increase the production and productivity of cotton, a centrally sponsored scheme of Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) is being implemented in all the 11 cotton growing States since 1971-72.

#### Monopoly criteria for price control

557. PROF. I.G. SANADI:  
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:  
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the rationale of having 90% market share for turn-over upto Rs. 4 crores and 40% market share above Rs. 4 crores for monopoly criteria for price control;

(b) whether these percentages were evolved to help multinationals and the reasons for not covering cases falling within turn over of Rs. one to four crores with market concentration between 40% to 89%.

(c) the basis on which such a decision was taken;

(d) the steps being taken to rectify these faults; and

(e) whether officers who prepared the list of drugs for price control are also engaged in reviewing (—) the representations, if so, whether Government propose to set up another committee for review?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) After considering the view points of the various interest groups, viz. Consumers and Voluntary Health Associations, Medical Profession, Trade and Industry Association including, Small Scale manufacturers and after broad-based discussions at various