

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

levels, including discussions in the Consultative Committee and the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals, in the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha, the Government finalised the "Modifications in the Drug Policy, 1986". These modifications *inter alia* include criteria for keeping the drugs under price control. The rationale behind these decisions was to streamline the price control system, remove the anomalies and aberrations and concentrate on drugs having wide usage.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Representations received are under examination by the Department.

Rising Prices of Vegetables

558. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that prices of vegetables have sky rocketed since the past few months;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for steep hike in prices of vegetables;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to bring down the prices of vegetables; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The wholesale prices of vegetables during the past few months reflected some seasonal fluctuations.

(b) The increase in the prices of vegetables can be attributed to recent floods and heavy rains which disrupted the normal supply of vegetables and created imbalance between the demand and supply;

(c) and (d) In order to control the excessive fluctuations in prices of vegetables, the Government have been undertaking both short-term and long-term measures. The short-term measures

include the sale of vegetables at fixed prices by the National Dairy Development Board, National Agriculture Cooperative Marketing Federation and Super Bazar in Delhi. As a long-term measure the Government has been implementing a Central Sector Scheme to increase the production of vegetables in the country.

Production of Iron and Steel in the Private Sector Companies

559. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of registrations and the quantity of production of iron and steel in the country granted to the Private Sector Companies;

(b) the steel production of private sector companies, plant-wise and sector-wise at present and the production levels targetted for the next three years; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The iron and steel industry has been exempted from the purview of compulsory licensing, subject to certain locational restrictions. Intending entrepreneurs are now required to file Industrial Entrepreneur's Memorandum (IEM's) with the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals (SIA). As per present information, as on 1.11.95 1558 IEM's for a total capacity of 131.39 million tonnes in the steel & steel related items, 23 IEM's for a total capacity of 7.55 million tonnes of Sponge Iron and 52 IEMs for a total capacity of 15.31 million tonnes of Pig Iron have been filed with SIA.

(b) and (c) As per available information, reported production of saleable steel, in the Electric Arc Furnace sector and TISCO and expected production (as reported and estimated) for 1995-96 are as below: