

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHAND-BHAI SHAH):

(a) and (b) Considering the dangers of health hazards and poisoning due to improper usage of pesticides and other accidental incidence, the Government are emphasising on safe and judicious use of chemical pesticides. The Government are also encouraging the adoption of biological control for pest control in agriculture. Similarly, the Government is also supporting the use of bio-fertilizers and organic manures for supplementing the use of chemical fertilizers.

The Government are proposing to undertake an expanded programme of Integrated Pest Management including biological control during the VIth Five Year Plan and is placing high emphasis on this programme.

(c) Based on the research investigations conducted, some of the important publications like,

(i) Problems and prospects of Botanical Pesticides in Integrated Pest Management; and

(ii) Biological control on identified crop pests have been published.

(d) At present, bio-control agents are being introduced and distributed by 11 Central Biological Control Stations set up by the Government of India in different parts of the country. Some smaller units have also been set up by a few State Governments. One private company is also selling these agents on commercial scale. However, the Government are proposing to expand these facilities in the Government sector and are also encouraging public and private sector companies to undertake their production and sale.

Impact of Diesel shortage on Rabi-showing and transportation of farm Produce

159. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recent diesel shortage hit rabi showing and also transport

of farm produce as appeared in the 'Times of India', dated the 28th November, 1990; and

(b) what corrective steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHAND-BHAI SHAH): (a) and (b) Certain restrictions were imposed on supply of High Speed Diesel (HSD) through retail outlets throughout the country. An 8 per cent cut was applied on supplies of HSD to Retail Outlets w.e.f. 8th October, 1990 which was increased to 10 per cent from 1st November 1990. Since the restrictions on release of HSD to retail outlets coincided with the Kharif Harvesting season and rabi sowing season, there has been marginal adverse effect on farm operations in some of the States. Instructions were issued to State Governments and Oil Companies to give priority to agricultural operations in distribution of diesel at the retail level. In fact priority was given for diesel to farmers in most States. The 10 per cent cut on supplies of HSD to retail outlets was withdrawn w.e.f. November 26, 1990 which has provided substantial relief to the transport and agricultural sectors throughout the country.

Demand of fertilizers

160. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: "Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fertilizer scenario in the country during 1991 is likely to be discouraging the foreign exchange earning; and

(b) if so, what are the alternate steps Government are taking to cope up with the demand of fertilisers in the agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION:

RAM BAHADUR SINGH); (a) and (b) The demand assessment of fertilisers in the country is made on financial year basis. In so far as the remaining three months of the current financial year 1990-91 is concerned, there is no likelihood of any shortfall in meeting the demand. The demand assessment of fertilisers for the year 1991-92, has, not yet been made.

Complaints of consumer[^] against Super Bazar

161. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a.) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a news item as reported in the 'Hindustan Times, dated the 21st November, 1990 captioned "Super Bazar in a mess";

(b) if so, whether the complaints of consumer against sales-persons and managerial staff are increasing and the authorities are not even listening to the consumers;

(c) whether Government propose to review the working of the Super Bazar in the capital to make it more effective and efficient; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and other steps Government propose to take against the erring salespersons/managerial staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SARWAR HUSSAIN):
(a) Yes, Sir

(b) No, Sir. All complaints, whether verbal or in writing, as and when received are promptly attended to. Complaint boxes have been provided at the main branches at Connaught Place, IN A and Patel Nagar, and complaint registers are available at the smaller outlets. Senior officers have also fixed time for visitors/consumers to attend to their grievances promptly.

(c) The working of Super Bazar is reviewed by the managing committee

as well as Deptt. of Civil Supplies. Govt. of India from time to time to make it more effective and efficient. The Department exercise control over the working of the store through official members nominated on the managing committees of the Store.

(d) Complaints are dealt with by the senior officers and Vigilance Wing of the Super Bazar and the erring employees are suitably punished. During the year 1990, three employees have been punished on the basis of the complaints received from the public. In two cases, warning has been issued and in one case, penalty of censure has been imposed.

Construction of underground Roads in Connaught Place, New Delhi

162. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct underground roads in Connaught Place to ease congestion and help pedestrians to move about freely;

(b) if so, the details of the plans of NDMC in this regard;

(c) whether the Delhi Urban Arts Commission has since approved the plans of the NDMC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when the underground roads would be constructed in Connaught Place area?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN): (a) to (d) Construction of underground roads (Subways) in Connaught Place area in the function of the New Delhi Municipal Committee. The NDMC has reported that the subway at the inter-section of Sansad Marg with outer circle has already been commissioned. Work on two more subways, namely at the intersections of Janpath and Baba Kharak Singh Marg with outer circle Connaught Place is in progress and is scheduled for completion in March 1991 and March 1992 respectively. NDMC has plans for constructing a few more subways in the Connaught Place area such as Panchkuin Road, Barakhamba