

2nd May, 1990 and state whether there is any scope of Vigyan Bhavan Complex being renovated ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : As the building is now in the custody of the Police authorities and detailed examination of the structure and physical and load tests have to be carried out, it is not possible to indicate, at this stage, as to whether renovation of the portions of the building, which had suffered damage, is practicable.

Import of pesticides banned abroad

@@1767. SHRI PASUMPONTA. KIRUTTINAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 4 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th April, 1990 and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some pesticides like Dieldrin, Aldrin, BHC, Luidance, Dichlorovos, Enfosulfan 2, 4, D which originated in the U.S.A. but have been banned in that country are being imported to India;

(b) whether these pesticides seriously affect the human organs like heart, kidney and nerves and even lead to cancer;

(c) whether Government have appointed a Committee of technical experts to screen the insecticides banned abroad; and

(d) if so, the details of the findings and the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH

KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) An expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. S. N. Banerjee has been constituted to review all the pesticides which are banned or restricted in other countries but are being used in India. This Committee has already reviewed 14 pesticides and submitted its report to the Government. The recommendation of this Committee on 11 pesticides have been accepted, and 3 are being further examined. In addition 17 more pesticides have been identified for review by the Banerjee Committee.

Ban on Pesticides

1768. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to ban 3 pesticides if so, the details thereof and by when this ban would be imposed as appeared in the Business Standard of the 27th April, 1990;

(b) whether 15 other pesticides have also been identified for similar ban and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether pesticides at (a) and (b) above have already been banned in several other countries and if so, the details thereof and what are the reasons that similar action is being delayed by Government; and

(d) whether Government would evolve a pragmatic National Pesticides Policy as advocated by the National Core Group on Pesticides organised by VHAJ in New Delhi on the 20-21st February, 1989, including creation of National Poison Control Centre and Information Centre for Pesticides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Three pesticides which have been mentioned in the 'Business Standard' of 27th April, 1990 are DDT, BHC and Malathion. The use of DDT in agricultural sector has been banned and the use of BHC restricted to certain crops in agriculture. However, there is no proposal at present to ban the use of malathion.

(b) and (c) Government has identified 17 pesticides for review by an Expert Committee as these are reported to be restricted/banned in certain countries. The names of these pesticides are—2, 4-D, Aldicarb, Carbaryl, Dicofof, Dime-thoate, Endosulfan, Lindane, Methyl, Parathion, Nitrofen, Paraquat, Nicotine Sulphate, P.C.P., Phorate, P.M.A., Tetradifon, Zinc Phosphide and Aluminium Phosphide. The decision for banning/restricting the use of these pesticides in the country could be taken only after the recommendations of the Committee are received by the Government.

(d) The representation of VHAI is under examination.

Collection of up-to-date Information of pesticides poisoning, etc.

1769. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Thacker Committee 1964 on pesticides had recommended in appendix 2 and appendix 3 (table 8 and 9) for collection of information, State-wise and year-wise, on incidents of human pesticides poisoning as also state-wise datas on suicides and homicides and whether this information has been updated, if, the details thereof, and if not, whether this

would be collected and brought out in public interest;

(b) what were the other recommendations of the above Committee and action taken thereon;

(c) whether Appendix 4 (table 10) contains incidents of pesticide toxicity to domestic animals and if so, the details of updated information;

(d) whether information on Toxicity to fish (table 11) has been updated and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether similar information in Table 12 for beneficial insects and wildlife have also been updated and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether ICMR or any other Central body is collecting details of the pesticides poisoning and if so, the details thereof for the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Drug addiction amongst students in Lucknow, U.P.

1770. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Drug addiction is becoming more serious as per survey conducted amongst students in Lucknow as published in the National Herald of 10th March, 1990;

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to overcome this serious problem; and