

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 30th July, 1980/the 8th
Sravana, 1902 (Safca)

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

FELICITATIONS TO THE INDIAN HOCKEY TEAM FOR ITS SUCCESS IN THE MOSCOW OLYMPICS

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Assam): Sir, before we take up the questions we, on behalf of the House, should express our congratulations to the Indian Hockey Team for their success in the Moscow Olympics.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Gujarat): Sir, I second the motion moved by Mr. Goswami.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please record that I join the whole House in acclaiming the Victory.

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also join Mr. Goswami ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Unless you want that I say that you did not join!

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Import of phosalone pesticide

*101. SHRIMATI AZIZA IMAM:† SHRI LADLI MOHAN

NIGAM: SHRI SWAMI DINESH

CHANDRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that phosalone, an imported pesticide for control of spotted Bolworm and Heliothis ^esta on cotton crop, is allowed to be imported on ad-hoc basis without any

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Aziza Imam. Rnn RS—1.

formulation capacity of M/s. Volrho on the recommendations of his Ministry;

(b) whether it is also a fact that other pesticides, which are manufactured in India like Fenitrothion, Endo-sulfan, Carbaryl, Monocrotophos, phenthoate, Methyl Parathion and Quinal Phos not only control the above insects on cotton crop but also control other insects on cotton;

(c) whether it is a fact that many formulators in India have accumulated huge stocks of pesticide due to lack of demand in the last year, on account of drought; and

(d) what are the reasons for allowing *ad hoc* import of Phosalone involving heavy foreign exchange when other pesticides of equal efficacy are freely available within the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) M/s. Volrho Ltd., have been licensed to manufacture Phosalone Technical and its formulations. Before they start basic manufacture, they have been allowed to import Phosalone Technical for market development on an ad hoc basis. This firm has formulation capacity for this product.

(b) Yes, Sir. But the indigenous availability of these pesticides is not unlimited. In fact some of these pesticides like Monocrotophos, Phenthoate and Endosulfan are also imported to supplement the availability from domestic plants.

(c) As a result of drought last year some insecticide manufacturers/formulators are reported to have accumulated inventories.

(d) No import of phosalone has been allowed after June, 1979. The assessed demand of phosalone for the year 1980-81 and the firm's request for import will be considered by an Inter-Ministerial Committee who undoub-