

at present should be taken into account in order to avoid future pollution with the increasing industrialization in the country—Studies conducted by the GPHERI for cities like Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay and Kanpur in 1969-70 reveal that certain areas of these cities have been affected by pollution aspect due to unabated emissions from industries, autosxhaust andjcoal burning. The Institute has published a report on these findings stating that certain control measures on the existing factories would help control the deterioration in the quality of the air.

(c) The following steps have been taken to check air Pollution.

(i) The Ministry of Health and Family Planning had appointed a Committee on Air Pollution Control in May 1970. The Committee submitted the draft Bill to the Government in July* 1971 and its final report in February, 1972. The Bill on the Control of Air Pollution is proposed to be introduced in the Parliament after due processing ana completion of constitutional formalities.

(ii) An Action Group for environmental Pollution was constituted in Delhi under the Chairmanship of the Lt. Governor. Vertical stacks have been installed in a few buses to control the smoke nuisance.

(Si) The Indian Standard Institution is working for laying down the standards for various pollutants in air which can be adopted in the country.

(iv) The Calcutta Metropolitan Development Auhority and Bombay Municipal Corporation have appointed CP-HERI, Nagpur as consultants to carry out the surveys of industries with regard to environmental pollution in their respective regions.

(v) The licensing schedule for new industries ha.1 been enlarged so as to oblige these industries to get clearance from the pollution angle.

Fall in The Prices of Agricultural Produce

*720 SHRI P. K. KUNJACHEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fall in prices of the agricultural produce, like rubber, pepper, ginger, areca-nuts, and coconuts; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to arrest the fall in prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE): (a) The current prices are generally higher than las year except in the case of arecanut. The prices of arecanut have, however, shown some improvement recently.

(b) The arecanut prices declined mainly because of rise in production without corresponding increase in demand. To remedy the situation, steps are being taken to improve the fharketing of arecanut, encourage its alternative uses and discourage further expansion of area under it.

Development of 'Shantivana' and «Vijay Ghat'

*72i. SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA r Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes drawn up for the development of 'Shantivana' and 'Vijay Ghat';

(b) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on the implementation of these schemes till the end of June, 1973 J-and

(c) the period likely to be taken in the implementation of the schemes in full?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHOLA PASWAN. SHASTRI) : (a) and (b) A statemen giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The works are expected to be completed by the end of 1974.