

SHRI D. NARAYAN : What is the life of a palm tree ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : I shall try to find out.

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN : May I know if the State Governments are discouraging the tapping of palm and *tad* trees, with the result that many palm and *tad* trees are lying useless, to the detriment to the country at large ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : We are discouraging the tapping of palm trees with a view to producing alcohol. We are encouraging the tapping of those trees with a view to producing gur, wherever it is necessary.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us what is the agency through which these statistics have been collected?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : These statistics, as my hon. friend will see) are collected through the Food and Agriculture Ministry.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : What exactly is the agency through which that Ministry gets these figures?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : I should like notice. But the Food and Agriculture Ministry has a mechanism through which these statistics are collected. There is a Palm Gur Section in that Ministry which is also doing this work.

SHRI D. NARAYAN : How does the planting of palm trees compare in expenses with the planting of sugarcane?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : I thought I made it clear that palm tree cultivation has not yet assumed the nature of plantation. We are depending upon nature to do the needful. We have not yet undertaken palm tree cultivation on a plantation scale, as in the case of rubber, tea, coffee, etc-

D.D.T. SPRAYING TO ERADICATE MALARIA

•37. SHRI BASAPPA SHETTY : Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state :

id) whether Government have introduced D.D.T, spraying all over India to eradicate malaria ; and

(b) whether Government propose to start a factory to manufacture D.D.T. ?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR) : *(a)* State Governments are responsible for anti-malaria operations including D.D.T. spraying in the areas under their control. Most of the States are using D.D.T, in their anti-malaria work. The Central Government have at present under consideration a National Malaria Control Programme which aims at protecting the population residing in malarious parts in the different States in as short a time as possible by D.D.T, spraying.

(b) Yes. A Joint Plan of Operations has been signed between the Government of India, World Health Organisation and United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund for the setting up of a D.D.T, factory at Delhi.

SHRI BASAPPA SHETTY : What are the financial commitments of the Government of India in this respect ?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: In which respect ? Anti-malaria programme, or D.D.T, factory?

SHRI BASAPPA SHETTY: D.D.T. factory. What is the amount that is going to be paid by the Government of India in the starting of the factory ?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR : The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund are giving us \$250,000 for equipment, and the World Health Organisation are giving technical help to the extent of ? 150,000. The Government has to arrange for the provision of land, buildings, steel,

water, electricity, etc. This expenditure will involve Government to the tune of about Rs. 22 lakhs.

SHRI BASAPPA SHETTY : What will be the annual production of the factory ?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR : We hope to produce 700 tons a year.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : What is the area in Mysore which has been chosen for D.D.T. spraying?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: No particular area has been chosen yet. The hon. Member must be aware that we did choose an area in Mysore during the last two years, and malaria has been eliminated there. The proposal now is that we should have a countrywide programme. The consent of the States is necessary, and then we shall have to consider the financial implications for the Government of India also.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Would the hon. Minister tell us whether there is a proposal to include the area of Malnad in Mysore State which is infested with malaria?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: In certain portions of Malnad in Mysore malaria has been eliminated. If the countrywide programme is brought into action, naturally all the malaria-infested areas in the whole of India will have the programme carried to them.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : Has it come to the notice of Government that D.D.T. supplies to Mysore are short of the needs of Mysore ?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR : I am not aware that Mysore has made any complaint to that effect. But I shall look into the matter.

BEGAM A I Z A Z RASUL : May I know if at present also our D.D.T. requirements are being imported from outside, and if they are, do they cover all the demands of the States ?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR : They do cover all the demands of the States, because the States are asked what quantities of D.D.T. they want imported. The requirements at the moment of the country—I speak from memory—are 1,000 tons a year.

SHRI H.N. KUNZRU: In this connection, may I know whether the Government of India has considered the desirability of setting up an All-India Malaria Institute ?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR : An All-India Malaria Institute exists in Delhi. It has existed for some time and is doing excellent work, and I invite the hon. Member to visit that Institute.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU : Have Government provided adequate funds for it ?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR : Yes, Sir. I have just asked the Finance Ministry, and I think I am going to succeed in getting extra funds for expanding its staff because of our expanding needs.

SHRI KRISHNA MOORTHY RAO: May I know when this D.D.T. factory is expected to go into production?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR : End of next year, I hope.

SHRI KRISHNA MOORTHY RAO: The hon. Minister said the annual production would be 700 tons. Is it sufficient to meet the annual demand?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister said that 1,000 tons was our annual demand.

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR : It is not enough to meet all our demands.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question No. 38.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Sir, may I put the question on behalf of Shri Bhanj Deo ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes.