150	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]	Unstarred Questions
1	2	3	4
22.	BVFC- Namrup II	240000	14208
23.	ZACL-Goa	399300	41263
24.	GNFC-Bharuch	636900	21550
25.	NFL-Nangal	478500	33335
26.	NFL-Bhatinda	511500	30436
27.	NFL-Panipat	511500	29882
	Sub Total	19267787	18668
	Feed-Stock: other than ga	ns	
1.	MCFL-Mangalore	379500	44836
2.	MFL-Madras	486750	47978
3.	SPIC-Tuticorin	620400	45657
	Total -Naphtha/FO/LSHS	1486650	46207
	Grand Total	20754437	20641

Adverse effects of monocrotophos pesticide

2237. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether UNFAO has asked the Government to ban the sale and use of monocrotophos organophosphorous pesticide in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) the total number of deaths of people and wildlife due to the use of this pesticide during the last three years, year-wise; and
- (d) the fresh steps taken by Government to have less poisonous alternatives of this pesticide in agricultural use and also to ban monocrotophos which is posing a serious risk to human health and environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (d) The decision to impose restriction on sale and use of pesticides is based on assessment of risk to human and animal health. The registration of monocrotophos pesticide for use in agriculture in India was subjected to

Written Answers to

technical reviews in 1993, 1995 and 2005. None of the Expert reviews have recommended imposition of complete ban on sale and use of this chemical in agriculture. A fresh review by an expert committee is under way for several pesticides including Monocrotophos. The Report of the Expert Committee is expected to be presented to Central Government shortly. The Registration Committee registers pesticides including alternatives to existing products, under provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968 after technical examination of efficacy and safety.

As per provisions of Insecticides Act 1968 and Rules framed there under, manufacturers of pesticides are required to provide a label leaflet with each pack having details of directions for use, dose, dilution, waiting period, safety, etc. In addition to that distributors, sellers and farmers are also being trained to comply with safety in dealing with pesticides.

National knowledge network

- 2238. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has established National Knowledge Network (NKN);
 - (b) if so, the objectives of the NKN; and
 - (c) the number of institutions interconnected in this regard?
- THE **MINISTER** OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has established the National Knowledge Network (NKN). The establishment of NKN was approved in March, 2010.
- (b) The objective of the NKN is to inter-connect all knowledge institutions across the country through high speed data communication network to encourage sharing of resources and collaborative research. These include over 1500 Institutes comprising of Universities, Research Institutions, and Institutions of Higher Learning.
- (c) As on 30th November, 2014 a total of 1354 links to Institutions have been commissioned and made operational. This includes 358 links to institutions under National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT), which have been migrated to NKN.