

and Shrimati Vandana Chavan (Maharashtra). The next speaker is Shri Aneel Prasad Hegde.

Need to prohibit the use of all bannable pesticides immediately by prohibiting its production, import, export, marketing and use in India

SHRI ANEEL PRASAD HEGDE (Bihar): Sir, I want to speak on an important issue 'Demand for prohibiting the use of all bannable pesticides immediately by prohibiting their production, import, export, marketing and the use in India'.

There are enough research reports about the havoc being caused by herbicides world-over. The issue is much bigger. In fact, India continues to have nearly 150 pesticides that have been banned or disallowed in one or more countries. There is a large body of scientific evidence, both on the ill-effects of synthetic pesticides as well as well as positive impacts of organic and natural farming. I welcome the hon. Prime Minister's stand urging the farmers to give up toxic chemicals and save the Mother Earth. But it is unfortunate that deadly chemicals, like monocrotophos, etc., are not being banned by the Minister of Agriculture. In May, 2020, the Government of India published draft ban order on 27 hazardous pesticides, that too after consulting with the pesticides industry representatives.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by Shri Aneel Prasad Hegde: Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Dr. Amar Patnaik (Odisha), Shrimati Vandana Chavan (Maharashtra), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha) and Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas (West Bengal). Now, Question Hour.

12.00 Noon

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

* Q. No. 46. [*The questioner was absent.*]

Foreign visits by Union Ministers

*46. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state: