

**Revamping of Sindri Fertilizer Plant.**

3127. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme of revamping the Sindri Unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). The Fertilizer Corporation of India is implementing Phase-I revamping of scheme in their Sindri Unit, involving revamp work in the captive power plant, revamping of industrial product plants, etc. Further revamping measures will be taken up as and when funds are available.

**Production of Neem Based Bio-Pesticide**

3128. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the tremendous potential of Neem as bio-pesticide; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to encourage production of Neem based bio-pesticide.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). "Neem" is known to contain certain insecticidal compounds and know-how for manufacture of insecticidal preparations from Neem seeds has been indigenously developed by Indian Institute of Chemical Tech-

nology, Hyderabad and National Chemical Laboratory, Pune. This has since been licenced to Industrial Units in the country.

**Prices of Packed Materials**

3129. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of packed items have increased by 20 percent;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of such packing materials alongwith the names of the producers of these materials;

(c) whether the producers of such packing materials are offering heavy discounts and other incentives for purchases made in big lots; and

(d) the reasons for which this aspect has altogether been ignored while increasing the prices thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d). The Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977, does not impose any statutory control over the prices of packing materials. However, under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987, the prices of formulations of scheduled bulk drugs and their packing materials are controlled. The administrative Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has informed that increase in packing material cost was necessitated by overall inflationary conditions. They have further informed that while fixing/revising the price of a formulation, the packing material costs are allowed after verification of documents submitted by the formulator in support of his claim, however, subject to internal ceilings adopted for various pack sizes. Ceilings are fixed and revised from