

(a) the progress made in regard to construction of 235-m high television tower in Pitampura, Delhi;

(b) the time by which the project will be completed and start functioning; and

(c) the original and revised estimated cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) RCC portion of the tower (167.07 metre high) has been completed. The remaining 67.93 metres would be a steel mast which has been fabricated and is being galvanised before erection.

(b) The project is expected to be commissioned in 1988.

(c) The revised approved estimated cost of the project is Rs. 621.69 lakhs compared to Rs. 372.61 lakhs approved in December, 1981.

#### **Herbal Insecticide 'Indiara'**

875. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an herbal insecticide 'Indiara' developed by a Pune Scientist, is awaiting licence since 1976, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it has been used on different crops;

(c) if so, the details of the outcome;

(d) whether this extremely stable pesticide has already been tried by Australians;

(e) whether some organisations in USA have also shown interest in this insecticide; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to promote the product in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation grants registration to insecticides under the Insecticides Act, 1968. 'Indiara' a herbal insecticide, was granted provisional registration under the Insecticides Act, 1968, in April, 1987 in favour of M/s. Harringer Bright Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., Pune

(b) and (c). According to the available information, some tests have been conducted on 'Indiara' by Mahatma Phule Agricultural University, Rahuri. Under the limited field trials this insecticide 'Indiara' has been found to be effective against Okra and Cabbage posts.

(d) and (e) No information is available with the Government.

(f) 'Indiara' has been granted only a provisional registration for generation of data on various parameters of safety and efficacy. The question of promotion of this product would arise after the entrepreneur has obtained regular registration on satisfying the Registration Committee (constituted under the Insecticides Act, 1968) on all the relevant parameters of safety and efficacy.

#### **Financial Crisis in Airlines**

876. DR. B.L. SHAIKESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the three aviation public sector units, which have so far been major profit earners, are heading towards a financial crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to check this overall trend?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTILAL VORA): (a) While Indian Airlines and International Airports Authority India have been continuously making profit, Air India which has been recording a net profit since 1981-82, is going to incur a loss during 1987-88.

(b) The loss Air India will sustain can, *inter-alia*, be attributed to:—

- (i) impact of depreciation and interest consequent to the induction of six Airbus aircraft.
- (ii) Declining business and yield in the Gulf market.
- (iii) Increase in fuel prices.
- (iv) Additional expenditure as a result of sanction of *ad-hoc* relief/interim relief.

(c) The steps taken to improve Air India's financial performance are:—

- (i) Improve yield by generating higher class traffic.
- (ii) Strive for higher share of market.
- (iii) Improved ground handling service.
- (iv) Keeping a tight control on costs.

#### **Outlay for Cooperative Sector**

877. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the outlay proposed for the Seventh Plan for Co-operative Sector in Orissa and other States;

(b) the amount provided to different States under State Plans in 1986-87 and 1987-88;

(c) whether the co-operatives have been facing some problems and due to that heavy losses are being incurred; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to help the co-operative sector in different States to come out those losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b) A statement showing statewise outlay on cooperation for the Seventh Plan as also for the years 1986-87 and 1987-88 is given below.

(c) and (d). According to the data published by the National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for the year 1981-82, about 26 percent of the total cooperative societies in the country were working in loss. Losses are incurred by cooperatives due, *inter-alia*, to the undertaking of non-viable operations, financial and operational deficiencies and mismanagement. "Cooperative Societies" is a State subject, and the State Governments take various measures for improving their working. The progress and problems of cooperatives were, however, discussed at the national level in the Annual Conferences of the Secretaries in-charge of cooperation and State Ministers of Cooperation held in December, 1986 as also in December, 1987. Various measures have been suggested to the States for improving the functioning of cooperatives, which includes revitalisation and rehabilitation of cooperatives at different levels, removal of financial and operational deficiencies as also improving professional competence in the management of these cooperatives.