

ment of the damage caused to agricultural land by sandcasting. As reported by the State Government, the total agricultural land affected by sandcasting in the villages of

Badla, Harta and Rajpur Bhayan and the number of persons rendered unemployed is as under:—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Village</i>	<i>Area affected (in ha.)</i>	<i>Persons rendered unemployed</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	Badla	125	80
2.	Harta	28	19
3.	Rajpur Bhayan	—	—

However, the depth of sand varied from 2 inches to 4 ft and no agricultural land in the said villages had sand depth between 5–10 ft.

(c) to (f). As per report received from the Government of Punjab, agricultural land measuring 96 ha. having sand depth less than 2 ft. has been brought under cultivation in these villages. The remaining agricultural land measuring 57 ha. had sand depth more than 2 ft. and the State Government approved a separate scheme for removal of sand from these areas. Funds under the scheme were released in the last week of March, 1990 but the same could not be utilised due to shortage of time. Hence, the remaining agricultural land will be made available for cultivation during 1990-91. No bulldozers were deployed in the sand clearance operations.

Research on Use of Neem as Pesticide

6705. SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the institutions and places where research on Neem has been conducted in the country;

(b) the progress made at each institute so far and expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) whether any evaluation has been done and if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) Sir, The major institutions where research on pesticidal effects of neem has been conducted are:—

- (i) Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.
- (ii) National Chemical Laboratory, Pune.
- (iii) Regional Research Laboratory, Hyderabad.
- (iv) Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.
- (v) Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajahmundry.
- (vi) Osmania University, Hyderabad.

(b) The major achievements are as follows:—

- (i) Identification and isolation of biologically active compounds from neem for their exploitation for control of insects, namatodes and plant diseases.
- (ii) Neems role in insect pest management has been well established. Several effective extracts/fractions and pure products have been screened against a large number of pests
- (iii) Stable and economical formulations for use under Indian conditions have been developed

The research on Neem is being undertaken as an integral part of the research programmes of these institutions and no separate allocations have been made specifically for research on Neem.

(c) A number of National and International symposia/seminars have been organized to review the neem research and the possibility of utilization of neem products in pest management strategies

Evaluation of Neem products against various agricultural pests is an integral part of neem research and development. It has been found effective against some major pests. Such as *Heliothis*, *Spodoptera*, white fly and a number of stored grain pests.

Delivery of Articles Sent Under Certificate of Posting

6706 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special organism or mechanism has been or is being proposed to be created to ensure the delivery of the articles to be posted under Certificate of

Posting; and

(b) if so, its broad features?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No, Sir. Posting of a postal article under Certificate of posting does not render it different from an unregistered article posted in the letter box, except that the Certificate of Posting serves as evidence of posting. Its delivery is therefore like that of any other unregistered postal article.

(b) Does not arise

Entering of Burmese Army into Mizoram

6708 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRISHIV SHARAN VARMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 10 Burmese Army personnel entered some villages in Mizoram on the 28th March, 1990 and opened fire;

(b) whether earlier too, the Burmese Army personnel entered Indian Territory;

(c) if so, the precautionary measures taken to prevent such intrusion by the Burmese Army into the Indian soil; and

(d) whether the matter has been taken up with the Burmese Government and if so, its reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. 4 Burmese Army personnel had earlier entered into Indian Territory on