

**Central Committee on Pesticides
Residue**

*114. SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Central Committee on Pesticides Residue to look into the various harmful effects of the pesticides;

(b) if so, whether eminent experts on pesticide residue are members of the Committee; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH) (a) There is a Sub-Committee of Central Committee for Food Standards to deal with the Pesticides Residues in food products, under the Ministry of Health, and Family Welfare.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise in view of (b) above.

**Deportation of Indian Nationals by
Foreign Countries**

*115. SHRI PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian nationals deported from foreign countries during the period from September, 1989 till date;

(b) the number of Indian nationals in distress abroad repatriated during the period January, 1988 till date; and

(c) the amount of financial assistance given by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

New Post Offices in Maharashtra

*116. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI AHER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new post offices proposed to be opened in Maharashtra during 1991-92; and

(b) how many of them will be in Nasik and Ahmednagar districts and the details of the proposed locations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SANJAY SINGH): (a) The programme for opening of new Post Offices in the country including that of Maharashtra for the year 1991-92 will be finalised as soon the NIRD report is received.

(b) The post offices found justified as per new norms will be opened during 1991-92.

Scrapping of Haldia Plant

*117. PROF. RUPCHAND PAL:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Haldia Plant of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation is going to be scrapped, being not viable;

(b) whether any responsibility has been fixed for mismanagement and financial irregularities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to rehabilitate the workers of Haldia Plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH): (a) No decision has been taken to scrap the Haldia Plant of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation.

(b) and (c). The delay in commissioning the project has been due to a variety of circumstances including mismatched equipment related to a variety of foreign credit, power shortage and disturbed industrial relations. No major irregularities have, however, been brought to notice.

(d) While proposals for revamping the plant are being pursued, workers have not been retrenched.

Vikram Project

*118. SHRI M. M. PALLAM RAJU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of the 'Vikram' project of the Department of Telecommunications;

(b) the estimated cost of the project;

(c) whether indigenous technology is available to meet the project needs; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to import any equipment for this project; and if so, the approximate value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SANJAY SINGH): (a) The objectives of the 'Vikram' project is to set-up a Packet Switched Public Data network to provide data communication.

(b) The estimated FOB cost of the imported equipment for 'Vikram' project in 1989 was Rs. 13.87 crores.

(c) and (d). It has been decided to set up Packet Switched Data Network in two phases. In phase I small capacity indigenously available switches is to be used. Phase II of the network will consist of expanding the above network with larger switches.

Foreign Tourists

*119. SHRI A. K. A. ABDUL SAMAD:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists who visited India from 1988 on wards year-wise and country-wise;

(b) the target fixed for receiving foreign tourists during 1990, country-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government are also aware that the Soviet Tourist Authorities have imposed restriction on their visitors as a result of which the number of tourists coming from USSR is decreasing this year;

(d) if so, the extent of loss incurred by the India Tourism Development Corporation; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to attract more tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINHA): (a) The country-wise and year-wise tourist traffic to India in respect of the major tourist generating countries since 1988 are as given below:

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>1988</i>	<i>1989</i>	<i>1990 (Jan-Aug)</i>
1.	U. K.	200,509	229,496	143,667
2.	U. S. A.	122,888	134,314	79,448