

German agency takes steps

● Carbon tetrachloride phase-out plan

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GUWAHATI, May 7: Intensive use of carbon tetrachloride (CTC) in the industrial sector poses a serious threat to human health. To create awareness among people against the use of CTC, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), a German-based organization, has come forward to assist the developing countries to phase out

have been educating

the people who have been using CTC in their industries," Susanta Deb, a senior official of GTZ told this correspondent. In this context, he informed that the response from the industries has been positive so far. "We have provided information about alternative solvents in stead of CTC and most of the industries in the country have complied with our norms," he said.

Providing more feedback in this regard, Deb said that the use of CTC has destroyed the

ozone layer in the atmosphere, which generally protects the earth from ultraviolet ray. "India along with more than 185 countries in the world have resolved to remove the CTC as per the Montreal Protocol. So, we are working in different countries to disseminate information about toxicity of CTC," he added.

Asked about alternative source of solvents in stead of CTC, Deb said " There are several solvents which are generally less toxic compared to CTC .We will provide in-

formation in this regard."

Since CTC is used indiscriminately in various industries of State, GTZ in association with the Federation of Industry and Commerce North Eastern Region (FICNER), is organizing a seminar in Guwahati tomorrow. The seminar is aimed at assisting the oil and power industries to avoid use of CTC.

GTZ has been working in various countries across the globe. "Our main objective is to create awareness among the people against CTC," he added.