

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4060
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2010
PESTICIDE MANAGEMENT BILL
Kumar Shri Kaushalendra

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Pesticides Management Act, 1968 has not been able to meet the present demands/ interests of the farmers;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring a new legislation on Pesticides Management;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for introducing a new Bill;
- (e) whether the views of experts, GoS/ GoM, Committee on Agriculture or public representatives have been obtained and incorporated in the proposed Bill;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (g) whether any assessment has been made regarding its impact on farmers including small and medium farmers;and
- (h) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): The existing legislation on regulation on pesticides in India, the Insecticides Act, 1968 (the Act) has been taking care of the interests of the farmers. However, certain changes in the existing legislation have become necessary on account of changes taking place globally as well as the experience in its implementation over the years.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. The Pesticides Management Bill, 2008 has been introduced in Rajya Sabha. The major reason for bringing new Bill is the need for a better regulatory framework for ensuring quality of pesticides and their management adopting life-cycle approach.

(e) & (f): Consultations with the stakeholders, experts ,Pesticide Associations etc. were made and their suggestions were considered. The Standing Committee on Agriculture has examined the Bill and its recommendations have been taken into consideration by the Government for making suitable amendments.

(g) & (h): No quantitative assessment has been made regarding its impact on farmers, including small and medium farmers. However, all categories of farmers, being the major user of pesticides, would be benefitted from the new legislation, especially in terms of stricter regime to ensure quality of pesticides, detailed information about the performance and efficacy of pesticides and faster introduction of newer pesticide molecules.