GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1569
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2011
USE OF SPURIOUS PESTICIDES
Dhanaplan Shri K. P.;Kumar Shri P.;Shantha J.;Sivasami Shri C.;Venugopal Shri P.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that large quantity of banned pesticides and chemicals are being used in the commercial crops plantations in the country;
- (b) if so, the details alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether any assessment has been made by Government regarding losses incurred due to improper use of pesticides and insecticides;
- (d) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme to educate the farmers about the judicious use of pesticides and insecticides; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a) & (b): Government has not received any report regarding the banned pesticide and chemicals being used in large quantity in the commercial crops plantations in the country.
- (c): No, Madam.
- (d): Does not arise.
- (e) & (f): The Central Government has already launched a scheme entitled "Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India" in 1991-92 adopting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as the main plank of plant protection strategy in overall crop production programme. Under the ambit of IPM programme, the Government has established 31 Central IPM Centres in 28 State and one UT.

The mandate of these Centres is pest/disease monitoring, production and release of bio-control agents/ bio-pesticides, conservation of bio-control agents and Human Resource Development in IPM by imparting training to Agriculture/Horticulture Extension Officers and farmers at grass root level by organizing Farmers Field Schools

(FFSs) in farmers' fields. Major emphasis is given on judicious use of chemical pesticide, safety in use of pesticides, alternate tools for pest management viz; cultural; physical, mechanical methods of pest control as well as use of biopesticides and biocontrol agents, effects of pesticides on natural enemies of pests, do's and don'ts of pesticide use including proper application equipment and the technique.