

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:111

ANSWERED ON:22.11.2011

USE OF PESTICIDES

Sampath Shri Anirudhan;Singh Shri Uday Pratap

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government, in the recent past, has banned stocking and sale of certain pesticides in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of pesticides which are banned in the countries of their origin being illegally imported into the country; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that only safe pesticides are used for agricultural purposes in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): In writ petition (civil) No. 213 of 2011 `Democratic Youth Federation of India vs Union of India & Ors`, Hon`ble Supreme Court passed an ad-interim order on 13.05.2011 banning production, sale and use of Endosuifan in the country till further orders and appointed a Joint Committee headed by the Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Agriculture Commissioner to conduct a scientific study on the question whether the use of Endosuifan would cause any serious health hazard to human beings and would cause environmental pollution.

The Committee was also directed by the Court to suggest alternatives to Endosuifan. Accordingly, the Central Government issued instructions on 14.05.2011 to all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to implement interim order of the Court in toto, which are binding on all manufacturers.

Central Government has also recently banned manufacture, import of formulation of Lindane with effect from 25th March, 2011 and has banned its use from 25th March, 2013 as it has been identified as a persistent organic pollutant.

Earlier, the Central Government had banned 27 insecticides based on reviews conducted from time to time due to their hazardous nature.

(c): There are 67 pesticides which are banned or severely restricted in some countries, but are allowed for use in India based on their scrutiny by the Registration Committee and reviews from time to time. Use of these insecticides is not illegal. Analysis of samples of agricultural commodities for pesticide residues under the scheme `Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National Level` does not indicate presence of banned pesticides.

(d): The Registration Committee (RC) constituted under section 5 of the insecticides Act, 1968 and rules framed thereunder, grants the registration of pesticides after the applications are duly scrutinized as per RC`s guidelines on various parameters like chemistry, bio-efficacy, packaging and processing and toxicity for the safety of human beings, animals and matters related therewith. RC registers a pesticide after ensuring its safety and bioefficacy for its use in the country. Only a registered pesticide can be used in the country. Pesticides are also reviewed from time to time taking into account fresh scientific information/developments. State Governments/Union Territories issue license for manufacturing, import, transport and sale of registered pesticides for their regulation.