

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:73

ANSWERED ON:22.11.2011

USE OF BANNED PESTICIDES

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that banned pesticides/chemicals are used in agriculture and horticulture;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any test/study on the use of pesticides/chemicals both in agriculture and horticulture;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has any plan to test the hazardous chemicals; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check proper use of pesticides/chemicals in agriculture and horticulture?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Use of pesticides in the country is regulated under the Insecticides Act, 1968. Certain reports in the media have referred to vegetables available in the market containing banned pesticides. However, analysis of samples of agricultural commodities, including fruits and vegetables collected for detection of pesticide residues under the Central Sector Scheme of 'Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National Level' has so far not indicated use of any pesticide banned under the Insecticides Act, 1968.

(e) & (f): Science being a dynamic subject, new developments do come to the notice of the Government from time to time. The Government keeps on reviewing the insecticides through Expert Committees or the Registration Committee. Based reviews 28 insecticides have been banned for import and manufacture so far.

The Government is popularizing the strategy of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) through a Central Sector Scheme 'Strengthening and Modernization of Pesticides Management Approach in India' which emphasizes safe and judicious use of pesticides.

Farmers are advised to use registered pesticides in recommended dosage and observe the required precaution and other instructions as given in Label and Leaflets.