GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:86 ANSWERED ON:22.11.2011 ILL EFFECTS OF PESTICIDES Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan ;Rana Shri Kadir

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage, out of the total production of pesticides in the world, that is being used in the country;

(b) whether the Government is providing subsidy on pesticides;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to check the ill-effects emanating from the use of pesticides?

Answer

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

(a): India's consumption of pesticides is estimated to be only 2% of the world's consumption.

(b)&(c): The Governments is providing funds under various schemes like Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission and Macro Management of Agriculture for plant protection measures including use of pesticides.

(d): Pesticides are registered for use in the country only after verifying their safety and efficacy. However, inappropriate use of pesticides can cause ill effects. The Government, under a scheme 'Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India'; has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as main plank of plant protection strategy. Under the ambit of IPM programme, the Govt. of India has established 31 Central IPM Centres in 28 States and one UT. The mandate of these Centres is pest/disease monitoring, production and release of bio-control agents/ bio-pesticides, pesticides on their crops so that the crop can be grown with minimum use of 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. Basic aim of FFS is to train the farmers on the latest IPM technology so that they are able to take decision in pest management operation. In FFSs the farmers are also trained about the judicious use of pesticides on their crops so that the crop can be grown with minimum use of pesticides.