

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1268

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013

BAN ON PESTICIDES

Singh Shri Vijay Bahadur;Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several pesticides including endosulphan are banned in the country for use in agriculture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Supreme Court has given permission for export of endosulphan;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether use of these pesticides have adverse effect on agricultural production, soil and human health; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to provide alternatives for these pesticides?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a)& (b): Some pesticides /formulations have been banned for manufacture, import, and use and some have been put under restricted use in the country, which are listed at Annexure.

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 Endosulfan 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 Endosulfan would cause any serious health hazard to human beings and would cause environmental pollution. Accordingly, the Central Government issued instructions on 14.05.2011 to all State Governments/U.T. Administrations to implement interim order of the court in toto, which are binding on all manufacturers.

The Joint Committee appointed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court has also been directed by the Court to suggest alternatives to Endosulfan.

The Joint Committee in its interim Report submitted in Supreme Court has given alternative pesticides to Endosulfan registered and available in the country.

(c) & (d): Only limited quantity has been allowed for export by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India after ordering the ban Order. Supreme court allowed export of 1090.596 MT stock of Endosulfan technical lying as accumulated stock with various manufacturers in India. Further, it also allowed export of existing stock of 2698.056 KL of Endosulfan formulation in w/w form on the conditions mentioned in the orders.

(e)&(f): Use of pesticides in the country is regulated under the Insecticides Act, 1968. A pesticide is registered only after scrutiny of bio-efficacy and bio-safety as per the provisions of the Insecticides Act 1968. Further, to ensure continued safety of such products, the Government appoints expert groups from time to time to review any registered pesticide which may be reported to cause any adverse effect or are banned/ severely restricted in other countries and action is taken on the basis of the recommendation of such expert groups. As such, if any negative feed-back is received, the registered pesticides are reviewed and if required, restriction or ban is imposed.

The Government advises farmers to use available alternative pesticides of these banned pesticides for controlling various pests of different crops under the ambit of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach.