

43**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
(2013-14)****MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS)**

[ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE
OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS
CONTAINED IN THE THIRTY-SIXTH REPORT (FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)
OF THE COMMITTEE ON
'PRODUCTION AND AVAILABILITY OF PESTICIDES'
OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
(DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS)]

**FORTY THIRD REPORT****LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI***December, 2013 / Agrahayan 1935, (Saka)*

REPORT

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(2013-14)**

FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

**MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS)**

**[ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE
OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS
CONTAINED IN THE THIRTY-SIXTH REPORT (FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)
OF THE COMMITTEE ON
'PRODUCTION AND AVAILABILITY OF PESTICIDES'
OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
(DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS)]**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 18.12.2013

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 18.12.2013



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

December, 2013/Agrahayan 1935, (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
(2013-14)**

Shri Gopinath Munde - Chairman	
MEMBERS	
LOK SABHA	
2.	Shri S. Alagiri
3.	Shri Gajanan D. Babar
4.	Shri P.P. Chauhan
5.	Shri K.D. Deshmukh
6.	Shri Sher Singh Ghubaya
7.	Shri S.K. Nurul Islam
8.	Shri Sakti Mohan Malik
9.	Shri Paswan Kamlesh
10.	Shri Amarnath Pradhan
11.	Shri Ashok Kumar Rawat
12.	Shri Tufani Saroj
13.	Shri Suresh Kumar Shetkar
14.	Shri Raju Shetti
15.	Shri G.M. Siddeshwara
16.	Shri D. Venugopal
17.	Shri Sai Prathap Annayyagari
18.	Vacant
19.	Vacant
20.	Vacant
21.	Vacant
RAJYA SABHA	
22.	Shri Biswajit Daimary
23.	Shrimati Naznin Faruque
24.	Shri A.A. Jinnah
25.	Shri Brijlal Khabri
26.	Shri Dilipbhai Pandya
27.	Shri Raghunandan Sharma
28.	Shri Ishwar Singh
29.	Vacant
30.	Vacant
31.	Vacant

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Smt Rashmi Jain | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri U.B.S. Negi | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri Anil Kumar Srivastava | - | Additional Director |
| 4. | Smt. Emma C. Barwa | - | Under Secretary |
| 5. | Shri Nishant Mehra | - | Committee Officer |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers (2013-14) having been authorised by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present the Forty-Third Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Thirty-Sixth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers (2013-14) on 'Production and Availability of Pesticides' of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals).

2. The Thirty-Sixth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers was presented to Lok Sabha on 6 August, 2013. The Action Taken Replies of Government to all observations/recommendations contained in the Report were received on 6 November, 2013. The Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers (2013-14) considered the Action Taken Report and adopted the same at their sitting held on 11 December, 2013.

3. An analysis of the Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Thirty-Sixth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in Appendix-II.

4. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations / recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the body of the Report.

New Delhi;
11 December, 2013
20 Agrahayana, 1935 (Saka)

GOPINATH MUNDE
Chairman,
Standing Committee on
Chemicals and Fertilizers

REPORT
CHAPTER – I

This Report of the Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers (2012-13) deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Thirty-Sixth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on 'Production and Availability of Pesticides' of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals) which was presented to Lok Sabha on 6.8.2013. In all, the Committee made seven Observations / Recommendations in the said Report.

2. The Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers (Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals) were requested to furnish replies to the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Thirty-Sixth Report within three months from the date of presentation of the Report, i.e. by 7.11.2013. The Action Taken Replies of the Government in respect of all the seven Observations / Recommendations contained in the Report have been received from the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals *vide* their O.M. No.25016/1/2011-CH-1 dated 6.11.2013. Accordingly, the Action Taken Replies of the Government have been examined and categorized as follows:-

- | | | |
|-------|---|---------------------------|
| (i) | Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government-
Rec. No. 4 | (Total =1)
Chapter-II |
| (ii) | Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply-
Rec. No. Nil | (Total =0)
Chapter-III |
| (iii) | Observations/Recommendations in respect of which reply of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration-
Rec. No. 3 | (Total=1)
Chapter-IV |
| (iv) | Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited-
Rec. Nos. 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7. | (Total =5)
Chapter-V |

3. The Committee desire that the Action Taken Notes on the Observations/Recommendations contained in Chapter - I and Final Action Taken Replies to the Observations/Recommendations contained in Chapter V of this Report be furnished expeditiously.

4. The Committee will now deal with action taken by the Government on some of their Observations/Recommendations which still require reiteration or merit comments.

A. Comprehensive legislation for the pesticides sector.

Recommendation No.1

5. Emphasizing the urgent need for a comprehensive legislation to govern all issues relating to pesticides, the Committee had recommended as under:

“The Committee note that pesticides have played a very important role in enabling the Green Revolution thereby making the country self-reliant in food. However, the availability of safe and effective pesticides and their judicious use by the farming community is critical to a sustained increase in agricultural production and productivity. According to the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals (DCPC), they play the role of facilitator for the growth of the industry. Presently, the country is self-sufficient in the production of technical pesticides and their formulations. The Committee further note that there is a demarcation of responsibilities between DCPC and the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) with regard to pesticides. While protection against pests and prevention of plants diseases and administration of the Insecticides Act, 1968 are subjects assigned to DAC, the DCPC’s responsibilities confine to issues relating only to the production of pesticides. All the vital issues of pesticides industry such as prevention of use of spurious pesticides, quality standards, testing, review of use of pesticides, creating awareness about judicious use of pesticides among the farmer community and setting up of new testing laboratories in the country and to fix maximum residue limits (MRL) are also handled by DAC. Apart from these two Central Departments, enforcement of the Act is also carried out by the respective State Governments. According to DCPC, the present division of responsibility is appropriate and is working well.

The Committee further note that DAC has prepared Pesticides Management Bill replacing the Insecticides Act, 1968, to address various issues affecting growth of pesticides sector. However, the Committee regret to note that the Bill is yet to

be passed by the Rajya Sabha which is under their consideration since October, 2008. The very fact that the Bill is pending for over a period of 4 years, clearly shows the lack of will and the concerted and coordinated efforts on the part of all concerned including DCPC. Needless to say, there is a rising public concern in recent times over the unrestricted use of pesticides in agriculture sector and its impact on human beings, animals and the surrounding environment. The Committee are of the view that there is an urgent and imperative need for a comprehensive legislation to govern all issues relating to pesticides effectively. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department should take up the initiative and coordinate with DAC and other concerned authorities to bring out a comprehensive legislation to govern all issues relating to pesticides. The Committee would like to know the efforts made by DCPC in this regard.”

Reply of the Government

6. In its action taken reply to the aforesaid recommendation, the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals has stated as under:

“Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, in consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments including DCPC, has already prepared a comprehensive Bill titled “Pesticides Management Bill 2008” to address all issues relating to pesticides. The Bill has been introduced and under consideration of Parliament.”

Comments of the Committee

7. In their report, the Committee had noted that the Pesticides Management Bill prepared by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) is still pending for passage in the Rajya Sabha since October, 2008. In this regard, the Committee had emphasized the urgent and imperative need for a comprehensive legislation to govern all issues relating to pesticides effectively and had accordingly recommended that the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals should take up the initiative and coordinate with DAC and other concerned authorities to bring out a comprehensive legislation to govern all issues relating to pesticides. However, in its Action Taken reply, the Department has simply stated that the DAC in consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments including DCPC has already prepared the Pesticides Management Bill 2008 to address all issues relating to pesticides and that the Bill has been introduced and is under consideration of Parliament. However, the Department has not spelled

out the efforts made or being made by them to expedite the process of passage of the said Bill which has been pending for the last five years in Rajya Sabha. The Committee, therefore, would like to reiterate their earlier recommendation for early passage of the said legislation on pesticides and accordingly, expect the Department to make concerted and coordinated efforts to expedite the passage of the Bill. The Committee would like to be apprised of the efforts made or being made by the Department in this regard.

B. Effective mechanism to assess demand and availability of pesticides.

Recommendation No. 2

8. While emphasizing the need to devise an effective mechanism to assess demand and availability of pesticides, the Committee had recommended as under:-

“The Committee note that indigenous production of pesticides is more than the domestic consumption and a large quantity of pesticides is being exported to foreign countries. However, the consumption of chemical pesticides has declined from 75,033 metric tonnes in terms of technical grade in 1990-91 to 50583 metric tonnes in 2011-12 and the use of bio-pesticides in the country has increased from 123 metric tonnes in 1994-95 to 8110 metric tonnes in 2011-12. According to the Department, managing the pest problem with less number of pesticides is a good sign and efforts are being made to encourage introduction of more low volume and high efficiency pesticides. The Committee also note that there are wide inter-state disparities in the consumption of pesticides. While States like Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra recorded high consumption of pesticides during the year 2011-12, states like Jharkhand, Odissa, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and the north eastern states recorded very low consumption of the same during the said period. Though the consumption figures for States like Jharkhand and Uttaranchal showed improvement in recent times, the total quantity of pesticides consumed is still very less. Further, there are wide variations in consumption of pesticides in respect of certain states from year to year. For example, while Andhra Pradesh recorded a consumption of 1541 metric tonnes of technical grade pesticides during 2007-08, the same declined to 1015 MT during 2009-10. The State recorded a huge rise in consumption during 2010-11 at 8869 MT but declined a bit to 8529 MT during 2011-12. Rajasthan’s consumption figure of 3804 MT during 2007-08 came down to 1652 MT for 2011-12. Similarly, states like Odisha witnessed a steady decline of consumption of pesticides over the years,

from a peak of 1588 MT in 2009-10 to 491 MT in 2011-12. In view of the foregoing, the Committee feel that there is a need to devise an effective mechanism to assess the demand and availability of pesticides in the States in terms of formulations so that the accurate and complete data is available with the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) and thereby to the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals (DCPC). There is also a need to analyse consumption pattern. This would help the DCPC to plan their production targets for pesticides in advance. The Committee, therefore, recommend that initiatives may be taken by the DCPC in this direction. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken in this regard.”

Reply of the Government

9. In its action taken reply to the aforesaid recommendation, the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals has stated as under:

“The demand, availability and consumption of pesticides in the states is being assessed by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) on the basis of the information, received from the officers of the State Governments in the Zonal Conferences on agricultural inputs, organized by DAC, for Rabi and Kharif seasons.”

Comments of the Committee

10. **The Committee had noted that there is not only wide inter-state disparities in the consumption of pesticides but also there is wide variations in consumption of pesticides from year to year in respect of certain states. The Committee were, therefore, of the view that an effective mechanism need to be devised to assess the demand and availability of pesticides in the States in terms of formulations so that an accurate and complete data is available with the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) and thereby to the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals (DCPC). The Committee had also felt a need to analyse consumption pattern. This would help the DCPC to plan their production targets for pesticides in advance. The Committee, therefore, recommended that initiatives may be taken by the DCPC in this direction. In its Action Taken Reply, the Committee regret to note that Department has simply reiterated the existing mechanism which is being used to assess the demand, availability and consumption of pesticides in the country. It has not elaborated the initiatives**

taken by them in coordination with DAC and State Governments to work out an effective mechanism to assess the demand and availability of pesticides in the States in terms of formulations. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation and desire that the Department should take the necessary initiatives in pursuance of the Committee's recommendation in the matter.

C. Need for effective oversight and review of price of pesticides.

Recommendation No. 3

11. While noting the absence of any Act or legal provision for controlling the price of pesticides in India, the Committee had emphasised the need to put in place a mechanism by the Department to regulate and monitor the prices of pesticides and recommended as under:-

“The Committee note that the Government do not have any mechanism to regulate the prices of pesticides and the same are determined by market forces of demand and supply. According to the Department, the Insecticides Act contains significant provisions which facilitate the registration of a large number of pesticides manufacturers and formulators, thereby enhancing competition in production and prices. However, there is no Act or legal provision for controlling the price of pesticides. The Committee are not convinced with the contention of the Department that the competitive market itself acts as a self-regulating mechanism against overcharging. The Committee feel that India being a agricultural country, the endeavour of the Government should be to supply the farmers with good quality of pesticides at reasonable price and therefore, the determination of prices of pesticides cannot always be left to the market forces of demand and supply. In fact, there is a need for a system whereby effective oversight is maintained and the price of pesticides is reviewed by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals from time to time. The Committee, therefore, recommend that a mechanism should be put in place by the Department to regulate and monitor the prices of pesticides to enable them to supply the same to the farmers at affordable prices. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Department in this regard.”

Reply of the Government

12. In its action taken reply to the aforesaid recommendation, the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals has stated as under:

“The Insecticides Act, 1968, which is administered by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC), regulates the import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution and use of insecticides with a view to prevent risk to human beings or animals, and for matters connected therewith. There is no provision in the Act to regulate and monitor the prices of pesticides.

The prices of pesticides are best controlled through competition. The Act already provides for “me-too” registration which increase competition and drives down prices of pesticides to reasonable levels.”

Comments of the Committee

13. The Committee had noted the fact that there is no mechanism to regulate the prices of pesticides and the same are determined purely by market forces of demand and supply. However, the Committee were not convinced with the contention of the Department that the competitive market itself acts as a self-regulating mechanism against overcharging. Accordingly, the Committee had recommended that a mechanism should be put in place by the Department to regulate and monitor the prices of pesticides to enable them to supply the same to the farmers at affordable prices. However, the response of the Department in its Action Taken Reply does not reflect their resolve to regulate and monitor the prices of pesticides in the country. According to the Department, the Act already provides for “me-too” registration which increase competition and drives down prices of pesticides to reasonable levels. The Committee regret to note that the Department has simply repeated their submission that the prices of pesticides are best controlled through competition instead of spelling out their initiative to regulate and monitor the prices of pesticides. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their contention that the determination of prices of pesticides can not always be left to the market forces of demand and supply and there is a need for an effective system to maintain an oversight over the price of pesticides. In view of this, the Committee expect from the Department to work out an effective mechanism with a view to regulate and monitor the price of pesticides. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard.

D. Need for establishment of more well equipped pesticides testing laboratories.

Recommendation No. 5

14. While noting that existing pesticides testing laboratories at the State and Central levels are highly inadequate and there is an urgent need to establish well equipped pesticides testing laboratories in adequate numbers all over the country keeping in view the crops grown in the region, the Committee had recommended as under:-

“The Committee note that there are a total of 71 pesticides testing laboratories in the country which includes 68 State Pesticides Laboratories in 21 States and one Union Territory, two Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories at Chandigarh and Kanpur and one Central Insecticides Laboratory in Faridabad. The Committee also note that while the State like Tamil Nadu have 15 laboratories, other States like Assam, Bihar, Kerala, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal have only one laboratory each and the States like Jharkhand and Meghalaya do not have any such facility at all. The Committee were also informed that a number of small player play a very important role in respect of formulation and production of pesticides in the country. While that brings down the cost of pesticides, the same increases the incidents of usage of spurious and ineffective pesticides in the country. In fact, the Department have admitted that a large scale usage of spurious pesticides is the main issue of concern, which happens primarily due to inadequate number of accredited pesticides testing laboratories.

The Committee, therefore, feel that the existing Pesticides Laboratories at the State and Central levels are highly inadequate and there is an imperative need to establish well equipped pesticide testing laboratories in adequate numbers in each State across the country keeping in view the needs of the crops grown in the region and manned by well trained staff. Accordingly, the Committee recommend that the Department should initiate appropriate action to get establish well equipped pesticide testing laboratories in adequate numbers in each State across the country. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Department in this regard.”

Reply of the Government

15. In its action taken reply to the aforesaid recommendation, the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals has stated as under:

“As on date, 68 State Pesticides Testing Laboratories (SPTLs) are working in different States with analysis capacity of 71315 samples per annum. In addition, two Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories (RPTLs) each with a testing capacity of 1100 samples per annum, have been established by the Central Government to supplement the resources of the State Labs. One referral lab the Central Insecticides Laboratory (CIL) has been established under section 16 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 with a testing capacity of 1600 samples per-annum.

Funds are provided to states under Central sector scheme ‘Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India’ to set up SPTLs and State Bio-pesticides Testing Laboratories. Besides, several States have accessed funds under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana to set up pesticides testing laboratories.”

Comments of the Committee

16. In their Report, the Committee had observed while some States like Tamil Nadu have 15 laboratories, there are many other States that do not have even one. Further, a number of small player play a very important role in respect of formulation and production of pesticides in the country. While that brings down the cost of pesticides, the same increases the incidents of usage of spurious and ineffective pesticides in the country. The Committee, therefore, had felt that the existing Pesticides Laboratories at the State and Central levels are highly inadequate and there is an imperative need to establish well equipped pesticide testing laboratories in adequate numbers in each State across the country keeping in view the needs of the crops grown in the region and manned by well trained staff. Accordingly, the Committee had recommended that the Department should initiate appropriate action to get establish well equipped pesticide testing laboratories in adequate numbers in each State across the country. In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated that funds are provided to states under Central sector scheme ‘Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India’ to set up State Pesticides Testing Laboratories (SPTLs) and State Bio-pesticides Testing Laboratories. Besides, several States have accessed funds under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana to set up pesticides testing laboratories. However, the Committee regret to note that the response of the Department is academic in nature and highly inadequate and unsatisfactory as the Department is silent about the initiatives undertaken by them in response to the recommendation of the Committee. It has not spelled out the number of additional laboratories set up under the schemes and the States where these have

been set up. Whether all the laboratories are manned by well trained staff and meet the needs of the crops grown in the region. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Department should elaborate the initiatives undertaken by them in pursuance of the Committee's recommendation and the achievements made as a result thereof indicating inter-alia the number of STPLs added and the States where these have been set up and whether these STPLs meet the requirement of the crops of the region or not.

E. Compulsory testing of pesticides.

Recommendation No. 6

17. Expressing deep concern over the fact that under the present arrangement, there is no mandatory requirement for checking of pesticides for their spurious content or 'misbranding' at the factory or manufacturers' level in the country, the Committee had recommended as under:-

"The Committee observe that under the present arrangement, there is no mandatory requirement for checking of pesticides for their spurious content or 'misbranding' at the factory or manufacturers' level. The Committee regret to note that normally the process to test and inspect pesticides is initiated on the basis of complaints from farmers, by which time the pesticides are already in the market. The very fact that a sizeable number of samples were found spurious during testing, clearly shows that the existing system is either grossly inadequate or is not strong enough to monitor and check the quality control of pesticides effectively at every level till it reaches to the farmers for usage. In fact, during the course of evidence, the Secretary of the Department was candid enough to accept that there is absence of quality checking mechanism even for major manufacturers of pesticides and that they should have looked in to it being responsible for production of pesticides. Since safe use of pesticides is crucial not only for the farmers in view of increased soil stress due to over use of chemical pesticides but for the safety of human beings, animals and environmental sustainability, the Committee are, therefore, of the firm opinion that existing mechanism needs to be strengthened and made effective and more vigilant to check any spread of spurious and ineffective pesticide. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Government should work out a mechanism to make testing of pesticides mandatory at every possible level right from the factory level till it reach to the farmers. Since this would require adequate number of testing laboratories and well trained Inspectors, the Committee desire that adequate funds may be provided for

the purpose. The Committee also feel that there should be an authority on the lines of Drug Controller General of India to oversee and monitor the manufacturing practices of all pesticides plants across the country including those in private sector and the Committee accordingly recommend to constitute such an authority for the purpose. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives taken by the Government in this regard.

Reply of the Government

18. In its action taken reply to the aforesaid recommendation, the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals has stated as under:

“Enough provisions exist in the “Insecticides Act, 1968” to control the quality of pesticides. These need to be enforced rigorously. Central Insecticides Inspectors and States Insecticides Inspectors notified under the Insecticides Act draw samples on regular basis from manufacturing sites to retail outlets for testing the quality of pesticides. Manufacturing facilities are inspected by state licensing authorities before granting license to a company.

Further, the “Pesticides Management Bill 2008”, which is under consideration of Parliament, addresses all issues relating to pesticides in a holistic and comprehensive manner.”

Comments of the Committee

19. **The Committee had noted that a sizeable number of samples were found spurious during testing which clearly shows that the existing system is either grossly inadequate or is not strong enough to monitor and check the quality control of pesticides effectively at every level till it reaches to the farmers for usage. The Committee had also noted that the process to test and inspect pesticides is initiated only on the basis of complaints from farmers, by which time the pesticides are already in the market for usage. The Committee had, therefore, recommended that the Government should work out a mechanism to make testing of pesticides mandatory at every possible level right from the factory level till it reach to the farmers for usage. The Committee had also felt that there should be an authority on the lines of Drug Controller General of India to oversee and monitor the manufacturing practices of all pesticides plants across the country including those in private sector. However, the Committee regret to note the casual response of the Department in its Action Taken Reply which does not**

reflect its action plan or the measures taken or being undertaken to effectively enforce even the provisions that exist in the “Insecticides Act, 1968” to control the quality of pesticides. The Department is also silent over the Committee’s recommendation regarding constitution of an authority on the lines of Drug Controller General of India to oversee and monitor the manufacturing practices of all pesticides plants across the country including those in private sector. This only shows the lackadaisical attitude of the Department on an important issue concerning testing of spurious pesticides rigorously. The Department has also stated that the “Pesticides Management Bill 2008”, which is under consideration of Parliament, addresses all issues relating to pesticides in a holistic and comprehensive manner. However, the Department has not elaborated as to what initiatives it has taken to get expedite the passage of the Pesticides Management Bill 2008 which is pending in Rajya Sabha for the past several years. Thus, the response of the Department is grossly inadequate and highly unsatisfactory. In view of the foregoing, the Committee, therefore, reiterate its recommendation to work out an effective mechanism to make testing of pesticides mandatory at every possible level and to constitute an authority on the lines of Drug Controller General of India to oversee and monitor the manufacturing practices of all pesticides plants across the country. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives taken by the Department in this regard.

F. Awareness training programme on use of pesticides.

Recommendation No. 7

20. Expressing the urgent need to frame a policy for periodic checks to detect pesticides residue in vegetables and fruits and the need to create awareness amongst the farmers regarding judicious use of pesticides, the Committee had recommended as under:-

“The Committee observe that there are certain pesticides which are banned in some countries but are used in India. On the other hand, there are also pesticides which are banned in India but their consumption is allowed in countries like Japan or USA. According to the Department, the requirement of pesticides vary from country to country depending upon climate and crops grown and therefore, what is needed in one country may not be required at all in other countries. Further, the Committee were informed that DAC are regularly monitoring the pesticide residues in food commodities and environmental samples under the Central sector scheme “Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National Level” which was initiated during 2005-2006. Since the inception of the scheme, a large number of samples of vegetables and fruits were collected and

analysed for the possible presence of pesticide residues across various parts of the country and detected pesticide residues in significant numbers of samples out of which certain samples contained residues above their Maximum Residue Limit (MRL). It was also informed that the Central Government have also constituted a committee in June, 2012 under the Chairmanship of a Deputy Director General of Ministry of Health to frame a policy for periodic check to detect pesticides residues in vegetables and fruits. The Committee would like that the formulation of the said policy framework may be expedited for which DCPC may coordinate with DAC, Ministry of Health and other stakeholders. Further, the findings of some research studies indicate the relationship between extent of pesticide use and signs and symptoms of illness. Apprehensions were also raised about the adverse effect of Endosulfan on human beings. Accordingly to DCPC, pesticides should be used by the farmers judiciously and strategically in lesser quantity and as far as possible they should use bio-pesticides and chemical pesticides should be used only as a last resort. The Committee also note that the DCPC as such does not directly play any role in educating the farmers regarding application of pesticides and the same is assigned to the Agriculture Department, particularly of the States. However, PSUs (such as HIL) and Autonomous Bodies (such as IPFT), on their own organise programmes on safe and judicious use of pesticides. However, the Committee are of the view that the Department cannot absolve themselves of their responsibilities in this regard and they should accordingly involve themselves in coordinating and organizing events to educate the farmers regarding proper and safe use of pesticides on various crops. The farmers should also be educated about the possible ill effects on human beings and surrounding environment as a result of improper usage and handling of pesticides. In this context, farmers should also be given intensive training on regular basis. The Committee, therefore, recommend that intensive awareness, training and educational programmes amongst the farmers about the safe and judicious use of pesticides for their crops should be launched by the Department in coordination with all concerned. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken in this regard.

Reply of the Government

21. In its action taken reply to the aforesaid recommendation, the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals has stated as under:

“Training programmes on safe and judicious use of pesticides are being organized by Central Integrated Pest Management Centres and State Governments to educate farmers. DCPC, in association with industry stakeholders like Crop Care Federation etc., organizes seminars about safe practices about judicious use of pesticides.

Further, Hindustan Insecticides Ltd.,(HIL), a CPSE of DCPC, also regularly organizes such programmes. During the last two years, HIL conducted programmes in 5 districts in Assam, 2 districts in Meghalaya, 3 districts in Odisha, 5 districts in West Bengal, and 10 districts in Chhatisgarh, apart from Patna in Bihar.”

Comments of the Committee

22. The Committee had noted the possible presence of pesticides residues in fruits and vegetables and their ill effects on human beings and had recommended that intensive awareness, training and educational programmes amongst the farmers about the safe and judicious use of pesticides for their crops should be launched by the Department in coordination with all concerned. The Committee had also noted that the Central Government have constituted a committee in June, 2012 under the Chairmanship of a Deputy Director General of Ministry of Health to frame a policy for periodic check to detect pesticides residues in vegetables and fruits. In this regard, the Committee had desired the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals to coordinate with the DAC, Ministry of Health and other stakeholders for expediting the said policy framework. In its Action Taken Reply, the Department explained that training programmes on safe and judicious use of pesticides are being organized by Central Integrated Pest Management Centres and State Governments to educate farmers. DCPC, in association with industry stakeholders like Crop Care Federation etc., also organizes seminars about safe practices and judicious use of pesticides. Further, Hindustan Insecticides Ltd.(HIL), a CPSE of DCPC, also regularly organizes such programmes. The Department has also stated that during the last two years, HIL conducted programmes in 5 districts in Assam, 2 districts in Meghalaya, 3 districts in Odisha, 5 districts in West Bengal, and 10 districts in Chhatisgarh, apart from Patna in Bihar. However, the Committee note that the Department has not elaborated the role played by them in organizing such seminars and the response of the farmers of the area to such programmes/seminars. Further, the number of such programmes/seminars organised by HIL and others seem to be significantly very low limited to certain parts of the Country. The Committee, therefore, feel that such programmes or seminars should be organised in large numbers to cover the entire length and breadth of the country. Further, efforts should be made to encourage every farmers of the area to attend such programmes/seminars with a view to educate themselves about the judicious use of pesticides. The Committee also note that the Department is silent about the status of the policy

framework to be framed by the committee constituted in June 2012 for periodic check to detect pesticides residues in vegetables and fruits. In view of the foregoing, the Committee expect from the Department to act accordingly and the Committee may be apprised of the initiatives taken by them in organizing programmes/seminars to create awareness about the judicious use of pesticides amongst the farmers across the country and about the present status of the policy framework as mentioned above at the earliest.

CHAPTER – II**OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT****Recommendation No. 4**

The Committee note that the Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. (HIL) is the only public sector undertaking which makes pesticides in the country and 40% of their turn over cover from the DDT which is sold to the Ministry of Health for malaria eradication programme known as National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme. According to the Department, the facility of DDT plant can not be utilized for manufacturing any other product. The Committee also note that DDT manufacturing plant are lying idle for most of the time as there is only limited order for DDT from the Ministry of Health which is the only customer in the country. However, the additional capacity of the DDT plant is utilized to export to Africa and other countries. HIL have also undertaken the Research and Development activities to bring down the cost of production by using cheaper alternatives with out sacrificing the quality. HIL has also ventured in to alternative methods of disease vector control like manufacture of synthetic pyrethroids etc. apart from looking at other emerging options like Long Lasting Insecticidal treated mosquito nets (LLIN) and appropriate technology for its production. The Committee further note that as per the direction of the Apex Court, HIL has stopped the production of Endosulfan on the ground that Endosulfan is health hazard to human beings as well as causing environmental pollution. While the production of Endosulfan rests with in the scope and purview of DCPC, the search for alternatives to the banned pesticide comes under the scope of DAC. The Committee also note that Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology (IPFT), is primarily engaged in R&D activities. While welcoming the efforts made by HIL, to bring down the cost of production by using cheaper but quality alternatives, the Committee recommend that HIL should augment its efforts for development and production of safe, economical and environment friendly alternatives in a time bound manner in coordination with all concerned including IPFT and if felt necessary, adequate funds should be allocated and invested in Research and Development (R&D) activities and technological innovation by the Department in order to achieve the desired results expeditiously. The Committee would like to be apprised of the progress made in this regard.

Reply of the Government

(i) HIL has informed that new formulations are getting registered in India in the form of water dispersible granules/suspension concentrates/ capsulated suspension

which are safe and environment friendly. Besides this, many existing generic pesticides molecules are also getting converted to safer and eco-friendly formulations. HIL has already taken action to put up a suspension concentrate manufacturing facility for which funds have been sought from the Ministry. This proposal has also been approved by the Board. The feasibility for putting up own manufacturing facility for water dispersible granule and capsulated suspension is being explored.

(ii) IPFT has taken up a project entitled "Development of user and environment friendly Water Dispersible Granule (WDG) Formulations of highly toxic, broad spectrum & effective pesticides to reduce their toxicity for continuation of use and prevention from ban" from the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals at a cost of Rs. 65.46 lakhs in XII Five Year Plan. The project will help in reducing the mammalian toxicity compared to commonly used Emulsifiable Concentrate / Soluble Concentrate (EC/SL) formulations of these pesticides. By developing new, safer formulations and reducing the toxicity on non-target organism, these molecules, which are very effective in pest management, may be saved and protected from ban.

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CHAPTER – III

**OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT WANT
TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY**

-- NIL--

CHAPTER – IV**OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND WHICH REQUIRE REITERATION****Recommendation No. 3**

The Committee note that the Government do not have any mechanism to regulate the prices of pesticides and the same are determined by market forces of demand and supply. According to the Department, the Insecticides Act contains significant provisions which facilitate the registration of a large number of pesticides manufacturers and formulators, thereby enhancing competition in production and prices. However, there is no Act or legal provision for controlling the price of pesticides. The Committee are not convinced with the contention of the Department that the competitive market itself acts as a self-regulating mechanism against overcharging. The Committee feel that India being a agricultural country, the endeavour of the Government should be to supply the farmers with good quality of pesticides at reasonable price and therefore, the determination of prices of pesticides cannot always be left to the market forces of demand and supply. In fact, there is a need for a system whereby effective oversight is maintained and the price of pesticides is reviewed by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals from time to time. The Committee, therefore, recommend that a mechanism should be put in place by the Department to regulate and monitor the prices of pesticides to enable them to supply the same to the farmers at affordable prices. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Department in this regard.

Reply of the Government

The Insecticides Act, 1968, which is administered by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC), regulates the import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution and use of insecticides with a view to prevent risk to human beings or animals, and for matters connected therewith. There is no provision in the Act to regulate and monitor the prices of pesticides.

The prices of pesticides are best controlled through competition. The Act already provides for “me-too” registration which increase competition and drives down prices of pesticides to reasonable levels.

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Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 13 of Chapter-I of the Report)

CHAPTER – V**OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH
FINAL REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED****Recommendation No. 1**

The Committee note that pesticides have played a very important role in enabling the Green Revolution thereby making the country self-reliant in food. However, the availability of safe and effective pesticides and their judicious use by the farming community is critical to a sustained increase in agricultural production and productivity. According to the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals (DCPC), they play the role of facilitator for the growth of the industry. Presently, the country is self-sufficient in the production of technical pesticides and their formulations. The Committee further note that there is a demarcation of responsibilities between DCPC and the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) with regard to pesticides. While protection against pests and prevention of plants diseases and administration of the Insecticides Act, 1968 are subjects assigned to DAC, the DCPC's responsibilities confine to issues relating only to the production of pesticides. All the vital issues of pesticides industry such as prevention of use of spurious pesticides, quality standards, testing, review of use of pesticides, creating awareness about judicious use of pesticides among the farmer community and setting up of new testing laboratories in the country and to fix maximum residue limits (MRL) are also handled by DAC. Apart from these two Central Departments, enforcement of the Act is also carried out by the respective State Governments. According to DCPC, the present division of responsibility is appropriate and is working well.

The Committee further note that DAC has prepared Pesticides Management Bill replacing the Insecticides Act, 1968, to address various issues affecting growth of pesticides sector. However, the Committee regret to note that the Bill is yet to be passed by the Rajya Sabha which is under their consideration since October, 2008. The very fact that the Bill is pending for over a period of 4 years, clearly shows the lack of will and the concerted and coordinated efforts on the part of all concerned including DCPC. Needless to say, there is a rising public concern in recent times over the unrestricted use of pesticides in agriculture sector and its impact on human beings, animals and the surrounding environment. The Committee are of the view that there is an urgent and imperative need for a comprehensive legislation to govern all issues relating to pesticides effectively. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department should take up

the initiative and coordinate with DAC and other concerned authorities to bring out a comprehensive legislation to govern all issues relating to pesticides. The Committee would like to know the efforts made by DCPC in this regard.

Reply of the Government

Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, in consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments including DCPC, has already prepared a comprehensive Bill titled "Pesticides Management Bill 2008" to address all issues relating to pesticides. The Bill has been introduced and under consideration of Parliament.

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Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 7 of Chapter-I of the Report)

Recommendation No. 2

The Committee note that indigenous production of pesticides is more than the domestic consumption and a large quantity of pesticides is being exported to foreign countries. However, the consumption of chemical pesticides has declined from 75,033 metric tonnes in terms of technical grade in 1990-91 to 50583 metric tonnes in 2011-12 and the use of bio-pesticides in the country has increased from 123 metric tonnes in 1994-95 to 8110 metric tonnes in 2011-12. According to the Department, managing the pest problem with less number of pesticides is a good sign and efforts are being made to encourage introduction of more low volume and high efficiency pesticides. The Committee also note that there are wide inter-state disparities in the consumption of pesticides. While States like Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra recorded high consumption of pesticides during the year 2011-12, states like Jharkhand, Odissa, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and the north eastern states recorded very low consumption of the same during the said period. Though the consumption figures for States like Jharkhand and Uttaranchal showed improvement in recent times, the total quantity of pesticides consumed is still very less. Further, there are wide variations in consumption of pesticides in respect of certain states from year to year. For example, while Andhra Pradesh recorded a consumption of 1541 metric tonnes of technical grade pesticides during 2007-08, the same declined to 1015 MT during 2009-10. The State recorded a huge rise in consumption during 2010-11 at 8869 MT but declined a bit to 8529 MT during 2011-12. Rajasthan's consumption figure of 3804 MT during 2007-08

came down to 1652 MT for 2011-12. Similarly, states like Odisha witnessed a steady decline of consumption of pesticides over the years, from a peak of 1588 MT in 2009-10 to 491 MT in 2011-12. In view of the foregoing, the Committee feel that there is a need to devise an effective mechanism to assess the demand and availability of pesticides in the States in terms of formulations so that the accurate and complete data is available with the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) and thereby to the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals (DCPC). There is also a need to analyse consumption pattern. This would help the DCPC to plan their production targets for pesticides in advance. The Committee, therefore, recommend that initiatives may be taken by the DCPC in this direction. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken in this regard.

Reply of the Government

The demand, availability and consumption of pesticides in the states is being assessed by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) on the basis of the information, received from the officers of the State Governments in the Zonal Conferences on agricultural inputs, organized by DAC, for Rabi and Kharif seasons.

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Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 10 of Chapter-I of the Report)

Recommendation No. 5

The Committee note that there are a total of 71 pesticides testing laboratories in the country which includes 68 State Pesticides Laboratories in 21 States and one Union Territory, two Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories at Chandigarh and Kanpur and one Central Insecticides Laboratory in Faridabad. The Committee also note that while the State like Tamil Nadu have 15 laboratories, other States like Assam, Bihar, Kerala, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal have only one laboratory each and the States like Jharkhand and Meghalaya do not have any such facility at all. The Committee were also informed that a number of small player play a very important role in respect of formulation and production of pesticides in the country. While that brings down the cost of pesticides, the same increases the incidents of usage of spurious and ineffective pesticides in the country. In fact, the Department have admitted that a large scale usage of spurious pesticides is the main issue of concern, which happens primarily due to inadequate number of accredited pesticides testing laboratories.

The Committee, therefore, feel that the existing Pesticides Laboratories at the State and Central levels are highly inadequate and there is an imperative need to establish well equipped pesticide testing laboratories in adequate numbers in each State across the country keeping in view the needs of the crops grown in the region and manned by well trained staff. Accordingly, the Committee recommend that the Department should initiate appropriate action to get establish well equipped pesticide testing laboratories in adequate numbers in each State across the country. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Department in this regard.

Reply of the Government

As on date, 68 State Pesticides Testing Laboratories (SPTLs) are working in different States with analysis capacity of 71315 samples per annum. In addition, two Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories (RPTLs) each with a testing capacity of 1100 samples per annum, have been established by the Central Government to supplement the resources of the State Labs. One referral lab the Central Insecticides Laboratory (CIL) has been established under section 16 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 with a testing capacity of 1600 samples per-annum.

Funds are provided to states under Central sector scheme 'Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India' to set up SPTLs and State Bio-pesticides Testing Laboratories. Besides, several States have accessed funds under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana to set up pesticides testing laboratories.

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Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 16 of Chapter-I of the Report)

Recommendation No. 6

The Committee observe that under the present arrangement, there is no mandatory requirement for checking of pesticides for their spurious content or 'misbranding' at the factory or manufacturers' level. The Committee regret to note that normally the process to test and inspect pesticides is initiated on the basis of complaints from farmers, by which time the pesticides are already in the market. The very fact that a sizeable number of samples were found spurious during testing, clearly shows that the existing system is either grossly inadequate or is not strong enough to monitor and

check the quality control of pesticides effectively at every level till it reaches to the farmers for usage. In fact, during the course of evidence, the Secretary of the Department was candid enough to accept that there is absence of quality checking mechanism even for major manufacturers of pesticides and that they should have looked in to it being responsible for production of pesticides. Since safe use of pesticides is crucial not only for the farmers in view of increased soil stress due to over use of chemical pesticides but for the safety of human beings, animals and environmental sustainability, the Committee are, therefore, of the firm opinion that existing mechanism needs to be strengthened and made effective and more vigilant to check any spread of spurious and ineffective pesticide. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Government should work out a mechanism to make testing of pesticides mandatory at every possible level right from the factory level till it reach to the farmers. Since this would require adequate number of testing laboratories and well trained Inspectors, the Committee desire that adequate funds may be provided for the purpose. The Committee also feel that there should be an authority on the lines of Drug Controller General of India to oversee and monitor the manufacturing practices of all pesticides plants across the country including those in private sector and the Committee accordingly recommend to constitute such an authority for the purpose. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives taken by the Government in this regard.

Reply of the Government

Enough provisions exist in the "Insecticides Act, 1968" to control the quality of pesticides. These need to be enforced rigorously. Central Insecticides Inspectors and States Insecticides Inspectors notified under the Insecticides Act draw samples on regular basis from manufacturing sites to retail outlets for testing the quality of pesticides. Manufacturing facilities are inspected by state licensing authorities before granting license to a company.

Further, the "Pesticides Management Bill 2008", which is under consideration of Parliament, addresses all issues relating to pesticides in a holistic and comprehensive manner.

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(Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals)
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Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 19 of Chapter-I of the Report)

Recommendation No. 7

The Committee observe that there are certain pesticides which are banned in some countries but are used in India. On the other hand, there are also pesticides which are banned in India but their consumption is allowed in countries like Japan or USA. According to the Department, the requirement of pesticides vary from country to country depending upon climate and crops grown and therefore, what is needed in one country may not be required at all in other countries. Further, the Committee were informed that DAC are regularly monitoring the pesticide residues in food commodities and environmental samples under the Central sector scheme "Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National Level" which was initiated during 2005-2006. Since the inception scheme, a large number of samples of vegetables and fruits were collected and analysed for the possible presence of pesticide residues across various parts of the country and detected pesticide residues in significant numbers of samples out of which certain samples contained residues above their Maximum Residue Limit (MRL). It was also informed that the Central Government have also constituted a committee in June, 2012 under the Chairmanship of a Deputy Director General of Ministry of Health to frame a policy for periodic check to detect pesticides residues in vegetables and fruits. The Committee would like that the formulation of the said policy framework may be expedited for which DCPC may coordinate with DAC, Ministry of Health and other stakeholders. Further, the findings of some research studies indicate the relationship between extent of pesticide use and signs and symptoms of illness. Apprehensions were also raised about the adverse effect of Endosulfan on human beings. Accordingly to DCPC, pesticides should be used by the farmers judiciously and strategically in lesser quantity and as far as possible they should use bio-pesticides and chemical pesticides should be used only as a last resort. The Committee also note that the DCPC as such does not directly play any role in educating the farmers regarding application of pesticides and the same is assigned to the Agriculture Department, particularly of the States. However, PSUs (such as HIL) and Autonomous Bodies (such as IPFT), on their own organise programmes on safe and judicious use of pesticides.

However, the Committee are of the view that the Department cannot absolve themselves of their responsibilities in this regard and they should accordingly involve themselves in coordinating and organizing events to educate the farmers regarding proper and safe use of pesticides on various crops. The farmers should also be educated about the possible ill effects on human beings and surrounding environment as a result of improper usage and handling of pesticides. In this context, farmers should also be given

intensive training on regular basis. The Committee, therefore, recommend that intensive awareness, training and educational programmes amongst the farmers about the safe and judicious use of pesticides for their crops should be launched by the Department in coordination with all concerned. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken in this regard.

Reply of the Government

Training programmes on safe and judicious use of pesticides are being organized by Central Integrated Pest Management Centres and State Governments to educate farmers. DCPC, in association with industry stakeholders like Crop Care Federation etc., organizes a seminars about safe practices about judicious use of pesticides.

Further, Hindustan Insecticides Ltd.,(HIL), a CPSE of DCPC, also regularly organizes such programmes. During the last two years, HIL conducted programmes in 5 districts in Assam, 2 districts in Meghalaya, 3 districts in Odisha, 5 districts in West Bengal, and 10 districts in Chhatisgarh, apart from Patna in Bihar.

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Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 22 of Chapter-I of the Report)

New Delhi;
11 DECEMBER 2013
20 AGRAHAYANA, 1935 (SAKA)

Gopinath Munde
CHAIRMAN
STANDING COMMITTEE ON
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

Appendix - III

MINUTES OF THE THIRD SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (2013-14)

The Committee sat on Wednesday, the 11 December, 2013 from 1500 hrs. to 1530 hrs. in Committee Room – B, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri A. A. Jinnah - *In the Chair*

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2.	Shri Gajanan D. Babar
3.	Shri Sher Singh Ghubaya
4.	Shri SK. Nurul Islam
5.	Shri Tufani Saroj
6.	Shri Raju Shetti
7.	Shri D. Venugopal
8.	Shri Sai Prathap Annayagari
RAJYA SABHA	
9.	Shri Biswajit Daimary
10.	Smt. Naznin Faruque

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Smt. Rashmi Jain | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri U.B.S. Negi | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri A.K. Srivastava | - | Additional Director |

2. As the Chairman could not attend the sitting due to pre-occupation, the members chose Shri A.A Jinnah, MP and a member of the Committee, to act as the Chairman. The Acting Chairman welcomed the members to the sitting of the Committee.

3. The Committee thereafter took up for consideration and adoption the following draft Reports :

- (i) Draft Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-third Report (15th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Fertilizers) and
- (ii) Draft Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-sixth Report (15th Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Production and Availability of Pesticides' pertaining to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals).

4. After some discussion, the above two draft Reports were adopted by the Committee without any amendment.

5. The Committee also decided to take oral evidence of some of the representationists in January 2014 who have desired to appear before the Committee in connection of Jan Aushadhi Scheme for which the Committee had given advertisements in the newspapers and electronic media.

The Committee then adjourned.

Appendix - II

(Vide Para 3 of the Introduction)

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE THIRTY-SIXTH REPORT (15TH LOK SABHA) OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (2012-13) ON 'PRODUCTION AND AVAILABILITY OF PESTICIDES' OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS).

I	Total No. of Recommendations	7
II	Observations / Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:- (Vide Recommendation No. 4)	1
	Percentage of Total	14.3%
III	Observations / Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply:- (Vide Recommendation No. Nil)	0
	Percentage of Total	0%
IV	Observations / Recommendations in respect of which reply of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration:- (Vide Recommendation No. 3)	1
	Percentage of Total	14.3%
V	Observations / Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are still awaited:- (Vide Recommendation Nos. 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7)	5
	Percentage of Total	71.4%