

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5628
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
USE OF HARMFUL PESTICIDES
Jeyadural Shri S. R.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a new investigation conducted by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) has revealed that various Government agencies/departments and universities are promoting the use of harmful pesticides amongst farmers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has asked any report from various stakeholders in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that only the registered pesticides are used in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): A report by Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) on "State of pesticides regulations in India" states that as per a review of 11 important crops in India, viz., wheat, paddy, apple, mango, potato, cauliflower, black pepper, cardamom, tea, sugarcane and cotton, recommendations for pesticide usage made by state agriculture universities, agriculture departments and other boards do not conform to terms and conditions of registration set by the Central Insecticides Board & Registration Committee (CIB & RC). The report further states that agriculture universities, departments and boards have recommended many pesticides that have not been registered for some crops.

(c) to (e): Pesticides are registered by Registration Committee constituted under the Insecticides Act, 1968 only after ensuring their efficacy and safety to human beings, animals and the environment. States have been sensitized from time to time to ensure that pesticides are used only in accordance with the terms & conditions of their registration and as prescribed in their label claims. Crop Research Institutes, Commodity Boards, State Agriculture Universities and Agriculture Departments of all States have been advised to review their recommendations on uses of pesticides on various crops to bring them in alignment with the uses as approved by the Registration Committee under the Insecticides Act, 1968. Efforts are also made to create awareness and conduct training programmes to promote the judicious & need based use of pesticides.

Steps are taken by the Central and State Governments under the Insecticides Act, 1968 to collect samples of pesticides products for test and analysis to ensure that only registered pesticides are used in the country.