

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5645
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
MONITORING OF USE OF PESTICIDES
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has established a national authority to monitor use of pesticides in agriculture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the number of inspections carried out by the Government in all pesticide retail outlets in any defined area along with the outcome thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any training to pesticide retailers and farmers for the safe use, storage and disposal of pesticides;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government has any penal provision to ensure compliance by pesticide retailers and farmers in this regard; and (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution and use of pesticides is regulated by provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968, the Insecticides Rules, 1971 and guidelines framed from time to time.

(c): In the year 2012-13, total number of 33492 pesticides samples were collected based on inspections carried out by Insecticides Inspectors in the country, of which 974 samples were found misbranded. As a result, 147 nos. of licenses of retail dealers were suspended, 923 revoked and prosecution was launched in 321 cases by State Governments under provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968.

(d): Yes, Madam.

(e): 34 nos. of trainings were organised at the National Institute of Plant Health Management, Hyderabad for trainers who then impart trainings to pesticide retailers, other agriculture extension functionaries and farmers till 2012-13. 25020 nos. of farmers, 265 nos. of retailers and 460 extension functionaries were trained in safe use, storage and disposal of pesticides in the year 2012-13 through 626 nos. of Farmers Field Schools and other training programmes organized by the Central Integrated Pest Management Centres located in different States and Union Territories.

(f): The Insecticides Act, 1968 provides for several provisions for the regulation of dealers of pesticides. However, the Act does not lay down any penal provisions against farmers.

(g): Section 29 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 provides up to two years imprisonment and/or fine up to Rupees fifty thousand for the first offence and imprisonment up to three years and/or fine up to Seventy five thousand rupees for subsequent offences related to stock, distribution and sale without valid license or that of misbranded or prohibited pesticides. The Act also provides for imprisonment for upto one year/ or fine up to twenty five thousand rupees for the first offence and imprisonment for a period up to two years and/ or fine up to fifty thousand rupees for subsequent offence related to contravention of the terms of licence or other provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968.

The Insecticides Act provides exemption to farmers for all provisions of the Act with respect to use of pesticides in kitchen garden or on any land under his cultivation.