

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3826
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2014
USE OF SPURIOUS PESTICIDES
Suvendu Shri Adhikari

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has estimated the loss of crops due to use of spurious pesticides;
- (b) if so, the quantum of loss and the steps taken by the Government to combat the situation;
- (c) whether the Government is emphasizing on agriculture based vocational training programmes to improve crop yield ratio; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a): No, Madam.

(b): Monitoring of quality of pesticides is a shared responsibility between the Central and State Governments. Central Government and State Governments notify Insecticides Inspectors and Insecticide Analysts to check sale of misbranded pesticides. States also appoint Licensing Officer. Insecticide samples are drawn on regular basis and analyzed in 68 State Pesticides Testing Laboratories (SPTLs) and at the two Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories at Chandigarh and Kanpur.

The Central Insecticides Laboratory, Faridabad, inter alia, acts as the referral laboratory under Section 16 of the Act in case of any dispute.

Licensing Authorities of State Agriculture Departments take administrative action by suspending or cancelling licenses in case of any violation. Insecticides Inspectors launch prosecution in the Court of Law. The Central Government provides grants in aid to the states to strengthen SPTLs and conducts awareness campaign against use of spurious pesticides.

(c) & (d): National Institute of Plant Health Management, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Agriculture imparts, inter alia, vocational training programmes to graduate participants on pest management. The details are annexed.