GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4545 ANSWERED ON:21.04.2015 PESTICIDES RESIDUES IN ORGANIC VEGETABLES Poddar Smt. Aparupa

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Crop Care Federation of India, an apex association of the Indian agro-chemical industry has revealed that most farms claiming to be organic do use chemical pesticides regularly to protect their crops;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a similar study regarding pesticide residues in organic vegetables has been conducted by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the outcome thereon; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to regulate organic products in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

- (a) & (b): The Crop Care Federation of India has published a report 'Facts About Organic Agriculture That many Do Not Know!' dated December, 2014 wherein it has stated that " laboratory analysis by Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi shows that every third organic vegetables carry pesticides residues."
- (c) & (d): Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi has reported status of pesticide residues in organic samples collected from Delhi region.

Commodity monitored are vegetables including organically grown: Brinjal, Okra, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Green chilli, Tomato, Capsicum, Cucumber, Green pea, Bitter gourd, Coriander leaves and Bottle gourd and fruits including Apple, Guava, Mosambi, Pomegranate, Papaya, mango, Banana, Pear. Results are as follows:-

Duration Sample Samples with Samples above analysed detected residues MRL April, 2013-March, 2014 58 16 (27.5%) 2 (3.4%) April, 2014-February, 2015 67 22 (32.8%) 3 (4.5%) Total: 125 38 (30%) 5 (4%)

(e): Under the Central Government Scheme, "Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National Level" samples of organic fruits and vegetables are being collected and are analysed for pesticides residues in 23 laboratories in India.