

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.678
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH DECEMBER, 2017

USE OF BANNED PESTICIDES

678. SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:
SHRI VENKATESH BABU T.G.:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
SHRI C.N. JAYADEVAN:
SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:
SHRI P.C. MOHAN:
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:
SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK:
SHRI R. DHRUVA NARAYANA:
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:
DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA:
SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM:
SHRI SATAV RAJEEV:
SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:
SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO:
SHRIMATI RAKSHATAI KHADSE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE ऋÖŠääÓã एवं किसान कल्याण ½ää"ääè be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware that a large number of farmers across the country including Maharashtra have died due to the use of inferior/toxic pesticides in cultivation of agricultural crops during the last few months if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (b) whether several dangerous pesticides which are banned in other countries are still used in the country, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Verma Committee had submitted its report on the use of pesticides to the Union Government in 2015;
- (d) if so, the action contemplated by the Government on the recommendations of the said Verma Committee report; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ban manufacturing and import of these hazardous pesticides/insecticides and to encourage/educate farmers to use pesticides/ insecticides judiciously?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

एवं किसान कल्याण १/२०१६ १/२०१६ १/२०१६ (SHRI
PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a): As per the information received from the Maharashtra Government, death of 63 farm labours/farmers have been reported due to handling of pesticides. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) constituted a team of officers from Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage (DPPQ&S), Faridabad, and State Agriculture Department, Maharashtra. The team visited Yavatmal district to assess the ground situation arising out of casualties and hospitalization of farmers due to inhalation of pesticides. In addition, advisories have been issued, inter alia, to maintain constant vigil.

As per the information received from the State Government, a Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been appointed to probe pesticide Poisoning cases and to propose proactive policies and strategies to prevent incidences in future. In addition, the Government of Maharashtra has released compensation of Rs. 2 Lakhs through Chief Minister fund to affected families in Yavatmal District. Adequate awareness extension activities have been under taken for safe handling of pesticides and spraying activities. Further, actions are being taken by the State Government against the violation of the Insecticides Act, 1968.

(b) to (e): The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) has constituted an expert committee in July 2013, to review 66 pesticides that are banned, restricted, withdrawn in one or more countries but continued to be registered in India. The committee submitted its report in December, 2015. The Expert Committee, inter alia, recommended 13 pesticides to be completely banned, 27 pesticides to be reviewed in 2018 after completion of certain technical studies and 6 pesticides to be phased out by 2020. The Complete list is at Annexure I. Considering the recommendation of Expert Committee as accorded by the Registration Committee, the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, vide its Notification S.O. 4212(E) dated 15th December, 2016, had invited objections and suggestions from the public/stakeholders on banning/phasing out of certain pesticides. The details are at Annexure II. In response to the Notification S.O. 4212(E) dated 15th December, 2016, the Ministry has received various objections and suggestions. Keeping in view of which, a committee has been constituted to review the received objections and suggestions. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is implementing 'Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach' (SMPMA) Scheme, wherein, inter alia, Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) are organized to sensitize farmers on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach. In addition, Package of practices for control of pests and diseases in 87 crops have been revised to include techniques to reduce dependence on chemical pesticides and encourage use of bio-pesticides and other alternative plant protection measures.

Annexure I

RECOMMENDATION OF THE EXPERT COMMITTEE WITH RESPECT TO 66 PESTICIDES

S. No.	Category	No. of Pesticides	Name of the Pesticides
1.	I- to be continued	18	Aluminium phosphide, Bifenthrin, Carbosulfan, Chlorfenapyr, Chlorothalonil, Dazomet, Diflubenzuron, Ethofenprox, Fenpropathrin, Iprodione, Kasugamycin, Mepiquat chloride, Metaldehyde, Paraquat dichloride, Pretilachlor, Propargite, Propineb and Zinc phosphide
2.	II- to be reviewed again in 2018, after completion of the recommended studies	27	Acephate, Atrazine, Benfuracarb, Butachlor, Captan, Carbendazim, Carbofuran, Chlorpyriphos, Deltamethrin, Dicofol, Dimethoate, Dinocap, Diuron, 2,4-D, Malathion, Mancozeb, Methomyl, Monocrotophos, Oxyfluorfen, Pendimethalin, Quinalphos, Sulfosulfuron, Thiodicarb, Thiophanate methyl, Thiram, Zineb, Ziram
3.	III- to be phased out by 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new certificate of registration to manufacture shall be issued after December 2017 • No person shall import, manufacture or formulate w.e.f. 1st January 2019 • The use shall be completely banned w.e.f. 31st December 2020 	6	Alachlor, Dichlorvos, Phorate, Phosphamidon, Triazophos, Trichlorfon
4.	IV- ban to be continued	1	Fenitrothion
5.	V- it's use to be completely banned.	13	Benomyl, Carbaryl, DDT, Diazinon, Fenarimol, Fenthion, Linuron, MEMC, Methyl Parathion, Sodium Cyanide, Thiometon, Tridemorph, Trifluralin
6.	VI- not reviewed as it is sub-judice	1	Endosulfan

Annexure II

NAMES OF THE PESTICIDES IN THE NOTIFICATION S.O.4212 (E)

S.No.	Name
1.	Benomyl
2.	Carbaryl
3.	Diazinon
4.	Fenarimol
5.	Fenthion
6.	Linuron
7.	MEMC
8.	Methyl Parathion
9.	Sodium Cyanide
10.	Thiometon
11.	Tridemorph
12.	Trifluralin
13.	Alachlor
14.	Dichlorvos
15.	Phorate,
16.	Phosphamidon
17.	Triazophos
18.	Trichlorfon
