

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1923**  
ANSWERED ON 17/03/2023

**DEATHS DUE TO EXPOSURE TO PESTICIDES**

1923. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether there have been deaths of farmers and farm workers due to occupational exposure to pesticides between 2018-2023 in each of the States of India;
- (b) whether the farmers and farm workers have become chronically ill and are receiving Government support for treatment;
- (c) if so, the details of the common pesticides involved in these cases;
- (d) whether the Ministry has taken any legal action against the pesticide companies involved; and
- (e) whether the Ministry has plans to provide compensation to victims of such accidental or occupational exposure to pesticides sprays?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (e): The Agriculture is state subject and implementation of Insecticides Act, 1968 is the responsibility of the state government. No specific information is available for cases of death and chronic illness of farmers and farm workers due to occupational exposure to pesticides.

The Registration Committee (RC) constituted under section (5) of the Insecticides Act, 1968 registers the pesticides for use in the country after evaluation of their safety and efficacy. Pesticides do not pose any adverse effect on the Human beings, animals and environment if they are used as per the label and leaflet approved by the Registration Committee (RC). Further, sale of quality pesticides is ensured through Central and States' Insecticide Inspectors and the Central and States' pesticide testing laboratories who are empowered to search and inspect the manufacturing premises of insecticides, to draw the sample of insecticides for testing for quality purposes. Action against firms / individuals involved in manufacture / sale of substandard/spurious pesticides is taken as per the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968.

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