

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3369
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31/03/2023

REVIEW OF REGISTERED PESTICIDES

3369. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

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

- (a) whether Government has reviewed the registered pesticides used in agriculture during 2022 and 2023 till date and banned some of them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise;
- (c) the details of pesticides registered for use in agriculture and allowed in the country, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of pesticides not registered for use in agriculture and are still being used in the country, State-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): The Government of India, from time to time keeps reviewing the continued use or otherwise of those pesticides which are banned/severely restricted in other countries of the world due to their toxic concerns or have been reported to pose harm to human health or environment in our country or other countries of the world. These reviews are undertaken by constituting special committees or through the Registration Committee (RC). Based on the recommendations of such expert committees and after due consultation with RC, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has so far banned or phased out 46 pesticides and 4 pesticide formulations for import, manufacture or use in the country. In addition, 8 pesticide registrations have been withdrawn and 9 pesticides have been placed under restricted use.

Further, during 2022 & 2023, Government has reviewed 27 pesticides by constituting an Expert Committee (EC) under the chairmanship of Dr. T.P. Rajendran, Ex-ADG(PP) and based on the recommendations of EC, a draft Gazette notification vide S.O. 701 (E) dated 15.02.2023 has been published for prohibition of 3 pesticides (Dicofol, Dinocap and Methomyl).

(c): 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. RC, while registering the pesticides, provides the details of doses, crops, precautionary measures, antidotes etc on Label and Leaflets. As per available records, 318 pesticides are registered for use in agriculture in the country.

(d): No specific information is available on pesticides not being registered for use in agriculture but are being used in the country. However, 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.
