

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 983
ANSWERED ON - 28/07/2026

REDUCTION IN IMPORTS OF CHEMICAL INPUTS

983. SHRI MANAN KUMAR MISHRA:
SHRI HARSH MAHAJAN:
SHRI MAYANKKUMAR NAYAK:
SHRI KESRIDEVSINH JHALA:
SHRI NARESH BANSAL:
SHRI TARUN CHUGH:
SHRI RAJINDER GUPTA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the year-wise reduction in imports of key technical-grade pesticides, dyes and chemical intermediates since 2014, along with the major reasons therefor;
- (b) the current status of the proposed Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) framework aimed at promoting domestic feedstock manufacturing, including the progress made so far and the likely timeline for its implementation; and
- (c) whether Government has undertaken digital safety compliance audits in units handling hazardous chemicals with a view to reducing industrial accidents, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

- (a) The year-wise details of imports of technical-grade pesticides, dyes and chemical intermediates, is at **Annexure**. This data is maintained by Department of Commerce from FY 2017-18 onwards. As per this data, the imports have gone up since the chemical sector contributes to various downstream sectors of the economy. Further, Indian chemical sector is now better integrated with global value chains.

(b) There is no Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for Chemicals and Petrochemicals sector at present.

(c) The Central Government under the Ministry of Labour and Employment has enacted the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSH&WC) Code 2020, which has come into force on 21.11.2025, to regulate the occupational safety, health and working conditions of the persons employed in an establishment including factories and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. There are elaborate provisions pertaining to occupational safety, health, welfare, hazardous processes, penalties and procedures etc. under the OSH & WC Code 2020. As per the Code, the employer is to inter-alia ensure that :

- the work place is free from hazards which cause or likely to cause injury or occupational disease to the employees;
- provision and maintenance of plant, systems and all the places of work in the unit are safe and without risk to health;

Further, the safety concerns of units handling hazardous chemicals are also addressed through the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals (MSIHC) Rules, 1989 issued under the Environmental Protection Act, 1986. The Rules regulate manufacturing, storage, export and import of hazardous chemicals. Further, the different State / Union Territories Governments have been empowered to enforce the provision of these Rules.

Further, in terms of the MSIHC Rules, the specified authority is mandated to conduct the inspection of industrial activities of units including hazardous chemical industries in a periodic manner. Further, the owner of such units are also required to conduct annual safety audit with the help of external experts and are required to submit the audit report to specified authorities in a time bound manner. In case of any violations, there are penal provisions specified in the said rules.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 983 for answer on 28/07/2026

(figures in Rs. Crores)

S. No.	HS Code	Commodity	2017 - 2018	2018 - 2019	2019- 2020	2020- 21	2021- 22	2022- 23	2023- 24	2024- 25	2025- 26
1	3808	Technical grade pesticides	8,467	9,267	9,096	12,417	13,364	14,310	11,670	13,998	13,428
2	32	Dyes and Pigments	12,995	15,459	14,518	14,036	19,431	20,490	30,116	24,289	23,747
3	28	Organic Chemicals	1,23,760	1,56,551	1,40,204	1,45,830	2,12,614	2,32,168	2,21,364	2,24,781	2,24,279
