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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2363 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.01.2018

Glyphosphate

2363: SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY

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

- a) whether a report from the World Health Organisation has linked the best selling weed killer "Glyphosphate" to cancer and several other studies are making this finding robust and if so, the details thereof;
- b) whether the Government plans to phase out the stocking on market shelves of this weed killer;
- c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- d) The other alternatives available to the Indian market?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE INDEPENDENT CHARGE FOR MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

No herbicide/weed killer in the name of "Glyphosphate" is registered for use in the country. Also, there is no weed killer named "Glyphosphate, however, there is a broad spectrum systemic herbicide named "Glyphosate". As per the Joint Meeting of the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations, Panel of Experts on Pesticide Residues in Food and the Environment and the World Health Organisation (WHO) Core Assessment Group on Pesticide Residues held at WHO Headquarters, Geneva from 9 to 13 May 2016, it has been reported that Glyphosate is unlikely to pose a carcinogenic risk to humans from exposure through diet. The International Agency for Research on Cancer identifies environmental factors that can increase risk of human cancer. Glyphosate is listed as class 2a carcinogen (probably carcinogen to humans) by International Agency for Research on Cancer.

(b) to **(d)** Does not arise