

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 348**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2018

**USE OF BANNED PESTICIDES**

\*348. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण  
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be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to ban Monocrotophos and Oxydemeton-methyl, the two pesticides as suggested by the panel which investigated the deaths of farmers and farm labourers from pesticide poisoning in Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the use of these pesticides is still continuing in the country though the same have been classified as Category-I pesticide by the World Health Organisation because of their acute toxicity and are banned in several countries including the European Union;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the steps taken by the Government to keep a check on the use of these pesticides;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the Government does not have a dedicated staff to check the quality of the pesticides, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to have a team dedicated for the purpose in the near future and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to educate the farmers and farm labourers regarding the safety protocols to be followed while handling toxic substances in the country?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण ½â"ãè

(SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 348 DUE FOR REPLY ON 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2018.**

(a): As per the information received from the State Government of Maharashtra, the Special Investigation Team (SIT) formed to investigate last year's pesticide poisoning deaths in Yavatmal district of Vidarbha has suggested a ban on Monocrotophos across the State. According to SIT report, it was found that Monocrotophos was mixed with other pesticides for spraying which was not scientifically approved. The State Government of Maharashtra vide Notification No. CPS1117/CR204117-A, dated 01.11.2017 under provision of sub section (1) of section 27 of the Insecticide Act 1968 has temporally prohibited the use of Monocrotophos 36 % SL for 60 days.

(b) & (c): The Registration Committee, constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 registers pesticides after considering its efficacy and safety to human beings, animals and environment. In additions, technical reviews are carried out from time to time to assess the safety of pesticides for their continued use. Pesticides used as per the approved label claims and leaflets are unlikely to cause any harm.

Monocrotophos and Oxydemeton-methyl are registered under the Insecticides Act 1968, for use in the Country. However, the Monocrotophos is banned for use on vegetables. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) has constituted an expert committee under the Chairmanship of Anupam Verma in July 2013, to review 66 pesticides, including Monocrotophos, that are banned, restricted, withdrawn in one or more countries but continued to be registered in India. The list of such pesticides is at Annexure I. The expert Committee inter alia, recommended for continued use of Monocrotophos and to review it in 2018 after completion of certain technical studies.

(d) & (e): Monitoring of quality of pesticides is a shared responsibility between the Central and State Governments. Central Government and State Governments have notified 182 and 10500 Insecticides Inspectors respectively to check sale of misbranded pesticides. Insecticide samples are drawn on regular basis and analyzed in 69 State Pesticides Testing Laboratories (SPTLs) and at the two Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories at Chandigarh and Kanpur. Action is initiated under the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968 against those samples which are found misbranded. During 2014-15 to 2016-17, a total of 195925 have been analyzed, out of which 5460 (2.8%) samples have been found misbranded.

The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare has established 35 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) across the Country. These CIPMCs, inter alia, conduct Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) to sensitize farmers on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach, and safe and judicious use of chemical pesticides as a last resort as per approved labels and leaflets. In the last three years, a total of 1971 FFSs have been organized, sensitizing 59130 farmers.

In addition, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare has established National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM) as an autonomous body. The National Institute of Plant Health Management is mandated to promote environmentally sustainable Plant Health Management practices in diverse and changing agro-climatic conditions, Bio security & Incursion Management through capacity building programmes for farmers and State Agriculture/Extension functionaries.

Furthermore, Regular advisories on pest management are being shared with the States for their timely dissemination to the farmers through their extension functionaries. The State Governments through various forums such as Zonal Conferences and National Conference are requested to exhort their extension functionaries to educate and impart training to farmers on efficacious and sustainable pest management strategies and approaches.

## Annexure- I

### LIST OF PESTICIDES WHICH HAVE BEEN BANNED/ RESTRICTED/ WITHDRAWN IN ONE OR MORE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD BUT ARE STILL REGISTERED IN INDIA

Sl. No.	Name of the Pesticide	Sl. No.	Name of the Pesticide
1.	Acephate	41.	Mancozeb
2.	Alachlor	42.	Mepiquat Chloride
3.	Aluminum Phosphide	43.	Metaldehyde
4.	Atrazine	44.	Monocrotophos
5.	Benfuracarb	45.	Oxyflurofen
6.	Benomyl	46.	Paraquat Dichloride
7.	Bifenthrin	47.	Pendimethalin
8.	Butachlor	48.	Phorate
9.	Captan	49.	Phosphomidon
10.	Carbaryl	50.	Peitilachlor
11.	Carbendazim	51.	Propargite
12.	Carbofuran	52.	Propineb
13.	Chlorfenapyr	53.	Quinalphos
14.	Carbosulfan	54.	Sodium cyanide
15.	Chlorothalonil	55.	Sulfosulfurone
16.	Chlorpyrifos	56.	Thiodcarb
17.	DDT	57.	Thiometon
18.	Dezomet	58.	Thiphanate Methyl
19.	Deltamethrin	59.	Thiram
20.	Diazinon	60.	Triazophos
21.	Dichlorovos	61.	Trichlorofon
22.	Dicofol	62.	Tridemorph
23.	Diflubenzuron	63.	Trifluralin
24.	Dimethoate	64.	Zinc Phosphide
25.	Dinocap	65.	Zineb
26.	Diuron	66.	Ziram
27.	Endosulfan ( Supreme Court has banned its use)		
28.	Ethofenprox		
29.	Fenpropathrin		
30.	Fenarimol		
31.	Fenitrothion		
32.	Fenthion		
33.	Iprodione		
34.	2,4-D		
35.	Kasugamycin		
36.	Linuron		
37.	Methomyl		
38.	Methoxy Ethyl Mercury Chloride		
39.	Methyl Parathion		
40.	Malathion		