

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1726
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH March, 2018

BAN ON PESTICIDES

1726. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to ban on the chemical, monocrotophos, in pesticides that caused farmer deaths in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government is considering of alternatives to these pesticides for farmers in case they are banned, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) & (b): The Registration Committee under section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 registers the pesticides only after evaluating their efficacy and safety to human health and environment. Pesticides used as per approved labels and leaflets are unlikely to pose any harm. Further, technical reviews of registered pesticide/insecticide are being conducted regularly to evaluate its impact for their continued use. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) had constituted an expert committee under the Chairmanship of Anupam Verma to review 66 pesticides, including Monocrotophos. The Expert Committee, inter alia, recommended monocrotophos to be reviewed in 2018 after completion of certain technical studies.

(c): Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an ecological approach which aims to keep pest population below economic thresholds level by employing available alternate pest control strategies and techniques viz. preventive measures, cultural, mechanical and biological control with greater emphasis on usage of bio-pesticides and pesticides of plant-origin like Neem formulation etc. The Government is implementing "Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India" (SMPMA) Scheme through 35 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) established across the country with an aim to promote Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach. CIPMCs inter alia, produce biological agents for release in the fields, conserve natural bio-control agents, promote bio-pesticides as an alternative to chemical pesticides and advocate judicious and safe use of chemical pesticides as a last resort.
