

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5963
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD APRIL, 2018

SPRAY OF INSECTICIDES/PESTICIDES IN AGRICULTURAL FIELDS

5963. SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA:

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

- whether the farmers are dying/died in the country due to spray of insecticides/pesticides in the agricultural fields, disinfection and poisonous gases particularly in Andhra Pradesh;
- if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year particularly in various districts in AP; and
- the compensation announced/given by the Government to the families of such victims in AP during the last three years and the current year and the steps being taken by the Government to protect farmers during such sprays with instructions of precautions taken/to be taken in agricultural fields in future?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

प्रश्नकर्ता एवं किसान कल्याण में प्रश्नकर्ता के प्रश्न (SHRI
PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) to (c): As per the information received from the State Governments, details of death caused by the inhalation of Pesticides are at Annexure I. The Registration Committee, constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 registers insecticides after considering its efficacy and safety to human beings, animals and environment. Furthermore, the Registration Committee while granting Certificate of Registration to the applicant also approves labels and leaflets. These labels and leaflets, inter alia, provides information on safe usage of the insecticide. It is mandatory for every manufacturer to place these labels and leaflets in the packages of insecticide for sale. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare 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. 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. These CIPMCs, inter alia, organize Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) to sensitize farmers on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach and to use chemical pesticides as a last resort as per approved labels and leaflets. In addition, Package of practices for control of pests and diseases in 87 crops have been revised to include techniques to reduce dependence on chemical pesticides and encourage use of bio-pesticides and other alternative plant protection measures. Timely advisories are being issued by the Ministry to the State Government disseminating, inter alia, management strategies to prevent pests attack. Furthermore, 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 /approaches.

Annexure I

Details of Deaths caused by the Inhalation of Pesticides

S.No.	State/UT	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Remarks
1	Andhra Pradesh	Such cases are not reported in Andhra Pradesh				
2	Bihar	Not reported				
3	Goa	Nil				
4	Gujarat	Nil				
5	Maharashtra	89	47	73	63	Casualties reported due to handling of Pesticides
6	Uttarakhand	Nil				
7	Daman and Diu	Nil				
8	Lakshadweep	Nil				
9	Assam	No such cases have been reported from any district of the State till date.				
10	Karnataka	3	2	1	Not informed by the State	Casualties reported due to pesticide poisoning
11	Jharkhand	No report of such deaths				
12	Andaman and Nicobar	No such cases have been reported				

S.No.	State	Kharif & Rabi 2014	Kharif & Rabi 2015	Kharif & Rabi 2016	Kharif & Rabi 2017	Remarks
13	Punjab	60	112	57	64	

S.No.	State	2014	2015	2016	2017	Remarks
14	Rajasthan	32	12	3	5	Casualties reported due to pesticide poisoning (including Suicidal, Homicidal, Accidental and Occupational)
