

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2613
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 9TH JULY, 2019

USE OF GLYPHOSATE

2613. SHRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Glyphosate not only kills weeds, but causes cancer too along with other harmful effects and if so, the steps being taken by the Government to regulate its use;
- (b) whether several countries have banned the carcinogenic herbicide;
- (c) if so, whether the Government intends to ban glyphosate in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any alternatives of glyphosate are available in the country;
- (e) if so, whether the Government is considering to promote the use of these alternatives; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the details of future strategy in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): Glyphosate is a herbicide, which kills weeds and is registered for use in our country. Glyphosate has been reviewed by the WHO (Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues), In the report submitted by JMPR in May, 2016 the JMPR concluded that glyphosate is unlikely to pose a carcinogenic risk to humans from exposure through the diet.

The Central Government has enacted the Insecticide Act 1968 to regulate the use of pesticides (including Glyphosate). The Registration Committee after evaluating Glyphosate on parameters, such as, chemistry, bio-efficacy, toxicity, packaging and processing has registered it for tea plantation and non-cropped area only.

(b): As per the information available on the Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention website, Glyphosate is not banned in any country.

(c): Presently, there is no such proposal.

(d): Yes Sir, Alternatives for Glyphosate are available in the country.

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(e) & (f): The Department is propagating judicious use of chemical pesticides. This Department has established 35 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) across the country. These CIPMCs propagate the use of Integrated Pest Management and recommend judicious use of chemical pesticide. The CIPMCs, inter-alia, release bio-control agents in the fields, conduct Farmers Field Schools and organize IPM orientation programs. In the last three years, 5957.25 million bio-control agents have been released, 2142 nos. of Farmers Field Schools and 391 nos. of IPM orientation programs have been organized by the CIPMCs.
