

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2247
ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2023

PESTICIDES POISONING

2247. SHRI BRIJENDRA SINGH:

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

- (a) Whether there has been an increase in cases of pesticide poisoning and death by consumption of pesticides, especially in rural areas where they are cheap and freely accessible;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether there is a need to strictly regulate the sale of highly lethal pesticides; and
- (d) If so, the steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): Specific information is not available on cases of pesticide poisoning and death by consumption of pesticides in rural areas due to their cheap and free accessibility.

(c) & (d): The manufacture, import, storage, sale, distribution, use, etc of pesticides are regulated by the Insecticides Act, 1968 and the Insecticides Rules, 1971 made there under. The Central Government is responsible for registration of insecticides whereas, the State Governments are responsible for licensing and enforcement of the conditions of licence and provisions relating to manufacture, sale, transport, distribution and use of insecticides. The Registration Committee (RC) constituted under section (5) of the Insecticides Act, 1968 registers the pesticides for use in the country after evaluation of their safety and efficacy. Pesticides do not pose any adverse effect on the Human beings, animals and environment if they are used as per the label and leaflet approved by the RC.

Further, to protect farmers from improper advice regarding pesticides, the frequency, methodology and timing of application etc. a new sub-rule 1A of Rule 10 (1) was inserted in the Insecticides Rule, 1971 and a requirement of educational qualification was introduced for a person who applies for license to sell, stock or exhibit for sale or distribute insecticides.

Further, sale of quality pesticides is ensured through Central and States' Insecticide Inspectors and the Central and States' pesticide testing laboratories who are empowered to search and inspect the manufacturing premises of insecticides, to draw the sample of insecticides for testing for quality purposes. Action against firms / individuals involved in manufacture / sale of substandard/spurious pesticides is taken.
