

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS & PETROCHEMICALS**

**LOK SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION No. 1730
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2022**

Supply of Spurious Chemicals

1730. SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARASWATI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding supply of spurious chemicals that are either locally manufactured or imported in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has fixed any standards for maintaining quality of chemicals;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has taken any action against any individual or company involved in supply of spurious chemicals; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER FOR CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(Dr. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)**

(a)&(b): Broadly the Chemical sector is de-licensed and de-regulated. However, Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage receives complaints/representations from various sources as Industry Associations, Customs Authority, etc. regarding supply of spurious pesticides that are either locally manufactured or imported in to the country.

There is no provision of spurious pesticides in Insecticides Act, 1968, however, u/s 3k the definition of “misbranded” pesticide is clearly defined. The details of complaints/ representations are annexed as Annexure-I.

(c) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) formulates standards for chemicals and most of the standards are presently voluntary in nature. To ensure manufacture and import of quality chemicals, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals has initiated an exercise to make BIS standards as mandatory for some chemicals under Section 16 of BIS Act, 2016. Accordingly, D/o Chemicals & Petrochemicals has notified 52 Quality Control Order to make BIS standards as mandatory so far.

Also, Central Insecticide Inspectors conduct routine/surprise investigations of manufacturing units/sale points and consequently draws of samples from the same to ascertain the quality (active ingredient) of insecticides. It is also

ascertained that no banned pesticides are being manufactured/ marketed in the country.

(d)&(e): The information is not maintained by Department.

Annexure-I

Complaints received regarding supply of spurious chemicals that are either locally manufactures or imported in the country during 2021-22

Sl. No.	Case Details	Action taken	Inference of the investigation (if any)
1.	Unregistered and illegal sale of 1-Methylcyclopropene	State authority were requested to nominate teams for investigation and verification: Commissioner of Agriculture, Pune, Maharastra Commissioner of Agriculture, Haryana, Chandigrah Director of Agriculture, Lucknow, UP Director of Agriculture, Shimla, HP, Director of Agriculture, Srinagar, J&K	The Teams were nominated to investigate and inspect the premises for carrying out such activities by state authorities and no such activity was reported. Report from Commissioner of Agriculture, Haryana, Chandigarh is awaited.
2.	Illegal sale/distribution of Dichlorovos by a firm in Haryana	A team of notified Central insecticide inspectors was nominated to verify the veracity of the complaint.	No illegal activity as alleged in the complaint was reported. Two samples were drawn which were found to be conforming to specification in RPTLs.
3.	Spurious pesticide manufacturing by a firm in Haryana	State authority were requested to nominate teams for investigation and verification Commissioner of Agriculture, Haryana.	A team was deputed by state authority and samples were drawn by the concerned notified agriculture inspector. Samples were found to be misbranded. Launching of prosecution under process by state authority.
4.	Import of plant growth regulator by mis-declaration from china	A team of notified central insecticide inspectors was deputed for checking the veracity of the complaint and import data was collected from custom authority.	Team raided the firm in December 2021 and sample was drawn. Sample analysis report is awaited. Consent for launch of prosecution against firm for illegal import of Ethephon sought from state authority.

Sl. No.	Case Details	Action taken	Inference of the investigation (if any)
5.	Illegal Repacking, marketing and sale of Spurious Aluminium Phosphide in states of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Haryana	Teams of notified central insecticide inspectors were deputed for inspection, verification and drawl of samples to check the veracity of the complaint.	No such activity was reported from Maharashtra and Haryana. One case of Repacking and sale of Spurious Aluminium Phosphide in state of Karnataka was verified and case is to be launched in the Hon'ble court.
6.	Lacing of Incense sticks with chemical pesticides in the state of Maharashtra	Teams of notified central insecticide inspectors were deputed for inspection, verification and drawl of samples to check the veracity of the complaint.	Team drew samples from the said premises and were sent for analysis at NIPHM Hyderabad, were found to be free from chemical pesticides.