

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4229**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022

**ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE IN CROPS**

4229. SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the indiscriminate use of antibiotics in food crops in several parts of the country is leading to the development and spread of Anti Microbial Resistance (AMR) among crops;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is taking any steps to check the rampant use of antibiotics in food crops and promote alternative healthy practices by farmers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): No report has been received from any part of the country regarding indiscriminate use of antibiotics in food crops leading to the development and spread of Anti Microbial Resistance (AMR) among crops. However, the matter of use of antibiotics was considered by Registration Committee *suo moto* and a Sub-Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.C. Dubey, Assistant Director General (Plant Protection & Biological Science), ICAR to examine the matter on production, sale and use of Streptomycin + Tetracycline. The Sub-Committee has submitted its report before the Registration Committee. The Registration Committee considered the report in its 430<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23.07.2021 and approved the recommendation of Sub-Committee to phase out the use of Streptomycin + tetracycline as per the availability of alternatives. Large-scale validations at field level have also been suggested for available alternatives. In view of this, DARE/ICAR has sent a communication to the crop specific ICAR-Institutes to conduct appropriate research to find out safer and better alternatives.

The Government of India has published the Gazette notification; S.O. 5295 (E) dated 17.12.2021 (Annexure-I) for prohibition of Streptomycin + Tetracycline in agriculture. Comments/suggestions on the draft notification have been received and the same have been considered by the Registration Committee in its 437<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 16.03.2022 wherein it decided to seek further suggestion/ comments from ICMR.

**[TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE OF INDIA, EXTRAORDINARY, PART-II,  
SECTION-3, SUB-SECTION (ii)]**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
(Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare)

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2021.

**S.O. 5295 (E)-** Whereas, the Registration Committee constituted under section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 (46 of 1968) (hereinafter referred to as 'the said Act') had constituted a Sub-Committee to explore the possibility of phasing out of antibiotic or antibacterial substances for use in agriculture if alternatives are available, as continued use of these substances in agriculture may pose risk of development of resistance to these antibiotics in human beings and animals;

And whereas, the Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section 2 of Section 27 of the said Act, after considering the recommendations of the said Sub-Committee and after consultation with the Registration Committee set up under the said Act, proposes to make the following draft Order, which is hereby published for information of all persons likely to be affected thereby and notice is accordingly hereby given that the said draft Order shall be taken into consideration after the expiry of a period of forty five days from the date on which the copies of the Gazette of India containing this Order are make available to the public;

And whereas, any person desirous of making any objection or suggestion in respect of the said draft Order may submit the same for consideration of the Central Government, within the period so specified, to the Joint Secretary (Plant Protection), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 27 of the said, the Central Government hereby propose to makes the following Order, namely:-

DRAFT ORDER

1. Short title and commencement.- (i) This Order may be called the Prohibition of Streptomycin + Tetracycline in agriculture Order, 2021.  
(ii) It shall come into force on the date of its final publication in the Official Gazette.
2. No person shall import, manufacture or formulate Streptomycin + Tetracycline for use in agriculture in India with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2022.
3. No new certificate of registration to manufacture, import or formulate of Streptomycin + Tetracycline for use in Agriculture shall be issued with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2022.
4. The use of Streptomycin + Tetracycline shall be completely banned in agriculture with effect from 01.01.2024.
5. Every State Government shall take all such steps under the provisions of the said Act and rules framed there under, as it considers necessary, for the execution of this order in the state.

[F. No. 13035/12/2020-PP-I]

(Dr. Pramod Kumar Meherda)  
Joint Secretary (Plant Protection)