

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2635
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2nd AUGUST, 2022

CROP DAMAGE DUE TO SPURIOUS PESTICIDES

2635 . SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH

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

- (a) whether the Government has estimated the extent of damage caused to the crop due to the use of spurious pesticides;
- (b) whether the Government plans to develop bio-fertilizers with the help of private players keeping in view the harmful effects of chemical fertilizers;
- (c) if so, the funds allocated by the Government for organic farming and soil quality improvement during the last three years;
- (d) whether the Government has achieved the desired targets in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government is also emphasizing on agriculture-based vocational training programme to improve the crop product ratio; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) : The Registration Committee constituted under section (5) of the Insecticides Act, 1968 registers the pesticides for use in the country after evaluation of their safety and efficacy. The registration committee while registering the pesticides provides the details of doses, crops, precautionary measures, antidotes etc on Label and Leaflets. The registered pesticides if used as per Label and Leaflets do not pose any harm to human beings, animals, living organisms other than pests.

To check the sale of Spurious pesticides, Insecticide Inspectors appointed by the State Governments and Central Government under section 20 of Insecticides Act 1968 , have been vested with powers to enter, search premises, seize documents, stop distribution, sale or use of stock of insecticides and take insecticide samples for analysis and to periodically inspect the manufacturer, distributors, dealers and retailers within the area of his jurisdiction to satisfy himself that the conditions of the license are complied with.

Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare through its 36 Central Integrated Pest Management Centers (CIPMCs) across 28 States and 2 UTs, conduct various training programmes such as Farmers Field Schools (FFS), Kisan Gosthis, 2 days Human Resource Development (HRD) programmes, IPM Exhibitions and Seed Treatment Campaigns for farmers. During the training, major emphasis is given on judicious use of chemical pesticide as a last resort, alternate tools for pest management viz; cultural , physical , mechanical methods of pest control, as well as use of bio-pesticides and bio-control agents, safety in use of pesticides, effects of pesticides on natural enemies of pests, do's and don'ts of pesticide, including proper application equipment and the technique .

(b) and (c) : Government of India promotes use of Bio-fertilizers under Integrated Nutrient Management of Crops . The Bio-fertilizers products and formulations developed by the Industry and Research Industries and as per the procedure laid down, are included in the Fertilizer Control Order so that it can be commercially made available to framers. Government is also promoting organic farming through dedicated schemes Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development (MOVCDNER) schemes across the country since 2015-16. Under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) scheme organic farming is promoted in cluster model and farmers are provided financial assistance of Rs 50000/ hectare for 3 years in which, Rs 31000/ hectare / 3 years is provided directly to farmers through DBT for organic inputs such as seeds, bio fertilizers, bio-pesticides, organic manure, compost/vermi-compost, botanical extracts etc. MOVCDNER is implemented in all the North Eastern States for promotion of certified organic production, in which, organic farmers are supported to develop their value chain from organic production to processing and marketing etc. through FPO formation. Under the scheme a sum of Rs. 46,575/ hectare for 3years are provided for creation of FPO, support to farmers for organic inputs, quality seeds/ planting material and training, hand holding and certification. Besides, financial assistance is also provided as subsidy to FPOs and Private entrepreneurs

(d) Government has achieved the desired targets under PKVY and MOVCDNER schemes. So far, 11.85 lakh hectare area has been covered under PKVY and 1.66 lakh hectare area has been brought under organic farming under MOVCDNER scheme.

(e) and (f) : There are no specific agriculture based vocational training programme to improve crop product ratio. However, Extension Division of DA&FW runs the following training program for rural youths and farmers:

- (i) **Skill training programmes (minimum 200 hours duration)** : The major areas of skill trainings include mushroom production, bee-keeping, micro-irrigation,

maintenance and repair of farm equipments, nursery management, organic grower, vermi-compost production, animal husbandry, dairying, poultry, fishery etc.

- (ii) **Skill Training of Rural Youth(7 days duration)** - The areas of skill training include soil testing, organic farming, bio-fertilizer production, clean milk production, poultry rearing and management, piggery etc. The skill gained by farmers/rural youth in these trainings is useful in gaining self employment.
- (iii) **“Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension reforms” Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA)**- is being implemented in 704 districts of 28 states & 5 UTs in the country. The objectives of the Scheme is to support State Government's efforts and to make available latest agricultural technologies and good agricultural practices in different thematic areas of agriculture and allied areas to farmers through different extension activities viz; Farmers Training, Demonstrations, Exposure Visits, Kisan Mela, Mobilization of Farmers Groups and organizing Farm Schools etc.
