

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 127
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8TH DECEMBER, 2015

USE OF BANNED PESTICIDES

*127. SHRI HARISH CHANDRA ALIAS HARISH DWIVEDI:
SHRI B.N. CHANDRAPPA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that many hazardous pesticides like chlorpyrifos, phorate, monocrotophos and neonicotinoid which are banned or restricted in the countries of origin are still being imported for being used in the agriculture sector adversely affecting the human health, soil, livestock and environment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor and the corrective action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the number of samples having pesticides and harmful chemicals above the permitted Maximum Residue Level (MRL) in fruits, vegetables, meat and spices is on the rise; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government for judicious and proper use of pesticides including 'Grow Safe Food' campaign and promoting the use of bio-fertilizers in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 127 DUE FOR REPLY ON 8TH DECEMBER, 2015.**

(a) & (b): The Registration Committee constituted under the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968 registers pesticides only after establishing their safety to human, animal and environmental health. Technical reviews are carried out from time to time and continued use of pesticides is permitted only if found safe. There are 66 pesticides which are banned / restricted in other countries of the world including USA and Europe but are permitted for use in India (**Annexure - I**). The reasons for permitting use of any pesticide in any country depends upon prevalence of pests, diseases and weeds situation in its agro-climatic conditions; prevalence of vector borne diseases and their control strategies; geography and other ecological factors and ecosystem of the country; socioeconomic conditions and availability of alternatives. A Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Dr. Anupam Verma has been constituted to review these 66 pesticides including chlorpyrifos, phorate and monocrotophos for their continued use in the country. The report of the committee is awaited. Apart from this, the committee had also been given the mandate to review neonicotinoids. The committee has submitted a Report with respect to neonicotinoid class of pesticides. The Committee has inter alia recommended that use of neonicotinoids may be allowed with instructions to not spray during flowering stage of the crop; inclusion of appropriate residue/toxicology parameters in registration requirement, and further studies on bio-efficacy and toxicity.

(c) & (d): Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has started a central sector scheme, "Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National level" under which samples of food commodities are collected and analysed for the presence of pesticide residues.

The year wise details of samples analysed are at **Annexure II**. The percentage samples of spices above MRL have decreased in the last years, whereas, for the same period, the percentage samples of vegetables above MRL have remained stagnant. No samples of Meat have been found above MRL in the last three years. The percentage samples of fruits above MRL have increased from 1.2% in 2012-13 to 1.8% in 2014-15.

The Central Government conducts Farmers Field Schools and other Human Resource Development programmes through Central Integrated Pest Management Centres in States and UTs to sensitize various stakeholders regarding safe and judicious use of pesticides, etc. A 'Grow Safe Food' campaign has been initiated to carry the message of safe and judicious use of pesticides to farmers and other stakeholders. A simple message on the five essential principles of judicious pesticide use viz., application of pesticides on the right crop, against pests for which the pesticide has been approved, at the right time, in approved doses, and as per approved method of application-is sought to be conveyed through hoardings, banners etc. in regional languages in Gram panchayats and rural areas. In addition, annual reports of "Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National level" are shared with States to help them to take focussed action against pesticides misuse. Under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), the Central Government provides financial subsidies for use of liquid bio-fertilizers such as Rhizobium/Azospirillum etc.

Annexure- I

LIST OF PESTICIDES WHICH HAVE BEEN BANNED/SEVERLY RESTRICTED IN SOME COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD BUT ARE BEING USED OR RESTRICTED USE IN INDIA

S.No.	Name of the Pesticide
1	Acephate
2	Alachlor
3	Aluminum Phosphide
4	Atrazine
5	Benfuracarb
6	Benomyl
7	Bifenthrin
8	Butachlor
9	Captan
10	Carbaryl
11	Carbendazim
12	Carbofuran
13	Chlorfenapyr
14	Carbosulfan
15	Chlorothalonil
16	Chlorpyrifos
17	Dazomet
18	DDT
19	Deltamethrin
20	Diazinon
21	Dichlorovos
22	Dicofol
23	Diiflubenzuron
24	Dimethoate
25	Dinocap
26	Diuron
27	Endosulfan
28	Ethofenprox
29	Fenpropathrin
30	Fenarimol
31	Fenitrothion
32	Fenthion
33	Iprodione
34	2,4-D
35	Kasugamycin
36	Linuron
37	Methomyl
38	Methoxy Ethyl Mercury Chloride

Contd...2/-

39	Methyl Parathion
40	Malathion
41	Mancozeb
42	Mepiquat Chloride
43	Metalddehyde
44	Monocrotophos
45	Oxyflurofen
46	Paraquat Dichloride
47	Pendimethalin
48	Phorate
49	Phosphomidon
50	Pretilachlor
51	Propargite
52	Propineb
53	Quinalphos
54	Sodium cyanide
55	Sulfosulfurone
56	Thiodecarb
57	Thiometon
58	Thiphanate Methyl
59	Thiram
60	Triazophos
61	Trichlorofon
62	Tridemorph
63	Trifluralin
64	Zinc Phosphide
65	Zineb
66	Ziram

Year Wise Details of Sample Analysed**Fruits**

S.No.	Year	Samples Analysed	Samples above MRL	Percentage of samples above MRL
1.	2012-13	1862	22	1.2
2.	2013-14	2235	36	1.6
3.	2014-15	2239	40	1.8
	TOTAL	6336	98	1.54

Vegetables

S.No.	Year	Samples Analysed	Samples above MRL	Percentage of samples above MRL
1.	2012-13	7347	212	2.9
2.	2013-14	7591	221	2.9
3.	2014-15	10593	306	2.9
	TOTAL	25531	739	2.9

Meat

S.No.	Year	Samples Analysed	Samples above MRL	Percentage of samples above MRL
1.	2012-13	434	0	
2.	2013-14	435	0	
3.	2014-15	444	0	
	TOTAL	1313	0	

Spices

S.No.	Year	Samples Analysed	Samples above MRL	Percentage of samples above MRL
1.	2012-13	388	94	24.2
2.	2013-14	1160	128	11.0
3.	2014-15	1299	107	8.2
	TOTAL	2847	329	11.55