

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 716
ANSWERED ON 25TH JULY, 2023

SPRAYING OF PESTICIDES

716. SHRI SHANKAR LALWANI:

DR. BHARATIBEN DHIRUBHAI SHIYAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has set any standards for spraying of pesticides on foods;
- (b) if so, the extent to which the pesticides sprayed on food is affecting the health of human beings;
- (c) whether any research is being conducted on such pesticides which do not affect the human life;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the action taken on the companies producing highly toxic pesticides during the last five years, State-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): Pesticides being inherently toxic substances are registered for use in the country by the Registration Committee (RC) constituted under section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 (the Act). RC, only after evaluating and satisfying itself about the safety and efficacy of the pesticides, grants registration. RC approves the standards for use of pesticides by prescribing its dosages, crops on which it is to be used, precautionary measures to be taken while using it, optimal re-entry period after each application of pesticides etc. on Label and Leaflets. Use of registered pesticides as per Label and Leaflets do not pose any harm to human beings, animals, and environment and living organisms other than pests.

(c) & (d): The Registration Committee, while registering the pesticides for use in the country evaluates their safety and efficacy based on the field trials conducted at State Agricultural Universities/ICAR institutes and lab studies conducted at NABL

/ISO:17025/ and GLP accredited laboratories to make available safe and efficacious pesticides to the farmers to protect the agricultural crops and also for public health.

(e): As per the Insecticides Act, any person desiring to manufacture any insecticide is required to obtain registration certificate from the Registration Committee.

In the Act under section 21, Insecticide Inspectors appointed by the Central or State Governments have been vested with powers to search premises, seize documents, stop distribution or sale of insecticides and take insecticide samples for analysis. Such analyses are carried out by the Insecticide Analysts appointed by Central or State Governments.

Offences related to import, manufacture or sale of 'misbranded' insecticides, which include use of deceptive or faulty labels, use of improper packaging, higher toxicity or counterfeiting of the product etc., are punishable with imprisonment up to two years, or with fine between Rs. 10,000 to 50,000, or with both under section 29 of the Act.

During the last 5 years for the period from 2018-19 to 2022-23, a total of 3346 firms have been prosecuted who were found involved in the manufacture, sale and illegal import of sub-standard/misbranded pesticides and in 160 cases the firms have been convicted by the Hon'ble Court after finding guilty. The state-wise details of action taken on misbranded pesticides during last five years is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

Annexure - I**The state-wise details of action taken on misbranded pesticides during last five years**

	State/UT	2018-19		2019-20		2020-21		2021-22		2022-23	
		Prosecution Launched	Accused convicted	Prosecution Launched	Accused convicted	Prosecution Launched	Accused convicted	Prosecution Launched	Accused convicted	Prosecution Launched	Accused convicted
1	Andhra Pradesh	101	-	83	0	-	-	0	0	0	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	0	-	-
3	Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	4	0	0
4	Bihar	NR	-	5	--	-	-	0	0	1	0
5	Chhattisgarh	-	-	11	-	-	-	0	0	0	0
6	Delhi	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	2	0
7	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	-
8	Gujarat	146	5	72	5	10	-	55		68	12
9	Haryana	58	4	76	8	20	4	21	0	35	0
10	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Jammu Kashmir	20	5	36	10	11	1	26	7	4	3
12	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	1	0
13	Karnataka	8	-	8	-	-	-	0	0	97	0
14	Kerala	6	-	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0
15	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0		
16	Madhya Pradesh	2	-	4	-	10	-	8	0	3	0

17	Maharashtra	261	-	95	2	10	-	123	0	82	0
18	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0
19	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0
20	Mizoram	0	-	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0
21	Odisha	1	-	1	1	-	-	0	0	0	0
22	Pondicherry	0	-	0	-	-	-	0	0	-	
23	Punjab	24	-	2	-	21	-	5	0	8	0
24	Rajasthan	12	-	1	-	3	-	28	0	2	0
25	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0
26	Tamil Nadu	30	-	14	-	7	-	0	0	79	0
27	Telangana	23	-	3	-	-	-	0	0	0	0
28	Tripura	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0
29	Uttarakhand	16	-	10	-	19	-	16	0	16	0
30	Uttar Pradesh	475	--	206	17	203	19	250	7	230	40
31	West Bengal	8	-	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0
	CII	14	-	10	-	7	2	8	01	15	3
	Total	1205	14	637	43	321	26	540	19	643	58
