

Introduction of a National Crop Insurance Scheme

1949. SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHAND-
RAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI NAGESHWAR PRASAD SHAHI:
SHRI SADASHIV BAGAIT-
KAR:
SHRI ABDUL REHMAN
SHEIKH: SHRI B.
SATYANARAYAN
REDDY:
SHRI PRAKASH MEH-
ROTRA:
SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:
SHRI NARASINGHA PRA-
SAD NANDA;

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration at present to introduce a National Crop Insurance Scheme in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b) A Pilot Crop Insurance Scheme based on homogenous area approach, drawn up by the General Insurance Corporation of India, at the instance of Government of India, is currently being implemented in selected areas in the four States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. This is likely to be introduced in the States of Haryana, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh also shortly. The Government of India are considering proposals to extend the coverage of the Pilot Scheme during the Sixth Plan (1980—85).

Purchase of Pesticides by National Seeds Corporation

1950. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:
SHRI KRISHNA NAND JOSHI:
SHRI PIARE LALL
KUREEL URF PIARE LAL
TALIB UNNAVI:
SHRI R- RAMAKRISHNAN:
SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT:
DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that both National Seeds Corporation and State Farms Corporation of India have a common Chairman and come under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Reconstruction;

(b) if so, whether National Seeds Corporation is purchasing the pesticides by tender at the lowest price irrespective of the fact whether it is formulated by the basic manufacturer or any other formulator and that the State Farms Corporation of India is purchasing pesticides mostly from basic manufacturers; and

(c) if answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The purchases of pesticides by the National Seeds Corporation are by and large for treatment of seeds, and the chemicals such as Vitavex, Thiram, DDT and PMA are purchased centrally. Purchases of vitavex and DDT are being made through the basic manufacturer, which is M/s. Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. (A Government of India Undertaking) while purchases of other two chemicals (Thiram and PMA) are being made through open tenders. The State Farms Corporation of India also procure their requirements of Vitavex and DDT from the basic manufacturer (namely, M/s. Hindustan Insecticides Ltd.) and in respect of other materials like Insecticides, weedicides, fungicides, herbicides, soil treatment materials, they make purchases from the basic technical grade manufacturers if they formulate their products, otherwise these are procured through open tenders.

(c) There are some variations in the policies followed by the two Corporations. Government is looking into this matter.

Purchase of Pesticides by State Farms Corporation of India Limited

1951. SHRI DHULESHWAR
MEENA:

SHRI KRISHNA NAND
JOSHI:

SHRI PIARE LALL KUREEL URF
PIARE LALL TALIB
UNNAVI:

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN:

SHRI NAND KISHORE
BHATT:

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA
HEPTULLA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply

to Unstarred Question No. 192 given, in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th February, 1981 and state:

(a) what are the details of the procedure which have been laid down for purchase of pesticides by the State Farms Corporation of India;

(b) whether the procedure has been approved by Government; and

(c) what are the details of the pesticides purchased by State Farms Corporation of India from 1-4-1980 to 28-2-1981 giving names of pesticides, quantity and price at which purchased and the name of suppliers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The State Farms Corporation of India purchase formulated pesticides from the manufacturers of basic technical grade material. In the cases where in respect of any chemical, if the basic technical grade manufacturer is not formulating, the purchases are made through open tenders and procured at the lowest rate.

(b) Specific approval from Government is not required for the procedure adopted in making purchases by a public enterprise. However, there are B.P.E. guidelines which lay down the general policies in this regard. SFCI has been instructed to scrupulously adhere to these general policy guidelines.

(c) The details of pesticides purchased from 1-4-1980 to 28-2-1981 are given in the Annexure.