

- (b) if so, the details of steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) No, Sir. There is no report, which suggests that pesticides, which have been banned by the Government, are available in the market.

(b) Central and State Governments have notified Insecticide Inspectors, who keep a watch on the market. In case, banned pesticides are found in the market, the inspectors draw their samples as a proof and initiate administrative and legal action against offenders.

Agricultural University in Raichur district of Karnataka

792. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the authorities of the University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, had submitted a proposal to Government recommending Raichur as a suitable place for establishing an Agricultural University;

(b) if so, the decision Government has taken on this recommendation; and

(c) whether Government intends to acquire more land for Central State Farm at Jawalgera in Raichur district of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Agriculture including agricultural education is a State subject. Establishment of an agricultural/veterinary university is, therefore, done by the respective State Governments.

According to information provided by University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Dharwad, the Principal Secretary to Government, Department of Agriculture, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru, *vide* his letter dated 29.4.2004 requested the UAS, Dharwad, to send a report on the establishment of new Agricultural University at Raichur. Accordingly, the University submitted a report of the Committee constituted for the purpose to the Government *vide* letter dated 20.4.2006 recommending Raichur as a suitable place for establishing an agricultural university.

(b) According to information provided by UAS, Dharwad, the Government of Karnataka enacted an Act, namely, The Universities of Agricultural Sciences Act, 2009 (Karnataka Act No. 10 of 2010) published in the Karnataka Gazette *vide* Notification No. SAMVYASHE 27 SHASANA 2009, Bangalore, dated 13th May, 2010, establishing, among others, the University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur with the headquarters at Raichur with the territorial jurisdiction extending over the districts of Gulbarga, Bidar, Raichur, Bellary and Koppal.

(c) According to information provided by UAS, Dharwad, a proposal has been sent to the State Government by the UAS, Raichur to handover the Central Seed Farm

(State Farms Corporation of India, Government of India) Jawalgera, spread over an area of 2960 hectares, to UAS, Raichur for taking up seed production and agricultural research on the various crops grown in this region.

Proposal to bring apple crop under NAIS

†793. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to bring apple crop under the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS) like all other fruits;

(b) whether it is a fact that this matter is under consideration of Government since long;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (d) Under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) only food crops and oil seeds and annual commercial/horticultural crops can be covered, for which yield data is available on the basis of Crop Cutting Experiments conducted by the respective State Governments. Perennial horticultural crops including apple are not covered due to problem in estimating the yield on account of multi-picking nature of the crops. However, the Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) was introduced by the Government during the year 2007 under which all horticultural crops including apple can be covered. At present, the apple crop is being covered under WBCIS in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand States.

Selling of Endosulfan despite ban

†794. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether considering the fact that insecticide Endosulfan is harmful both for human beings and animals, the Supreme Court has imposed ban on its production, sale and use;

(b) whether after the verdict of the Supreme Court, keeping Endosulfan in shops is prohibited;

(c) whether Government is aware that Endosulfan is being sold at agricultural centres and insecticide and seed outlets at Aklatra, Pamgarh, Sakti, Shivri Narayan, Champa, Malkharauda, Nawagarh and Balauda in Chhattisgarh; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government against the guilty in order to check the sale of Endosulfan?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.