

Suicide by farmers in Haryana

18. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Haryana witnessed around 400 farmer' suicide in the year 2011;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to address the situation; and
- (d) the impact of the same, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (d) Government of Haryana has informed that no cases of suicides by farmers are reported in the State so far.

Need based use of approved pesticides

19. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) through Farmers Field Schools for safe, judicious and need based use of approved pesticides and other pest management practices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the achievements made so far under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Following works/activities are being carried out under the Integrated Pest Management Programme -

- Popularization of IPM approach among farming community.
- Conducting regular pest surveillance and monitoring to assess pest / disease situation.
- Rearing biological control agents for their use and conservation of naturally occurring bio-agents.
- Promotion of Bio-pesticides and neem based pesticides as alternatives to chemical pesticides.

- Play a catalytic role in spread of innovative IPM skills to extension workers, land farmers in various States/UTs.
- Human Resource Development in IPM by imparting training to master trainers, extension workers and farmers through Farmers Field Schools (FFSs).
- Organization of Farmers Field Schools (FFS) through KVKs/SAUs/ICAR institutes to develop the sufficient human resource.
- Farmers are being educated under IPM through Farmers Field schools on safe, judicious and need based use of approved pesticides besides IPM skills and pest control techniques to be adopted by them in their crop fields, thereby making them self reliant in decision making. So far, total up to January, 2013 a total of 14,470 Farmer Fields Schools have been conducted through these CIPMCs since 1994 where 4,35,098 farmers have been educated.
- Further, farmers are being educated through 2 days short duration programmes. Non formal education through participatory approach is also being adopted for educating the farmers.

Monitoring of pesticide residues in food commodities

20. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is implementing a Central Sector Scheme "Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National Level" under which samples of various food commodities are analysed for presence of pesticide residue therein;
- (b) if so, the details of such analysis made during the last three years;
- (c) whether any samples were found to contain pesticide residue above Maximum Residue Limit;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken for the corrective action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (d) Government of India is implementing a Central Sector Scheme