156 Written Answers to		[RAJYA SABHA]		Unstarred Questions	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Kathua	17,383				
Udhampur	9,931				
Samba	5,241				
Rajouri	6,971				
Kishtwar	1,363				
Poonch	2,709				
Reasi	1,999				
Ramban	5,765				
Doda	2,274				
Total	73,267				-

## Indiscriminate use of pesticides

 $\dagger$ 1952. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that indiscriminate use of hormones like 'Oxytocin' and pesticide like 'Monophotos' in fruits and vegetables has adversely affected the human health and increased the threat of deadly diseases like cancer;
  - (b) if so, the report with the Government in this context; and
- (c) the steps taken or being taken by Government together with farmers to deal with this serious situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) The Registration Committee, constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 registers pesticides after considering its efficacy and safety to human beings, animals and environment. In additions, technical reviews are carried out from time to time to assess the safety of pesticides for their continued use. Pesticides used as per the approved label claims and leaflets are unlikely to cause any harm. Further, no pesticide by the name of 'Monophotos' is registered under the Insecticides Act, for use in the country. However, the Department is implementing 'Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach'

(SMPMA) Scheme, wherein, *inter alia*, Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) are organized to sensitize farmers on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach and to use chemical pesticides as a last resort as per approved labels and leaflets.

As per the information received from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, concerns have been raised from time to time for misuse of oxytocin in dairy and vegetable industry in the country. In view of above, various regulatory measures have been taken in this regard. The Government has published Notification *vide* GSR No.411 (E) dated 27.04.2018, which will be effective from 1st September 2018 for restricting the manufacture of Oxytocin formulations for domestic use to public sector only, under section 26A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 in the following manner:

- The manufactures of Oxytocin formulations for domestic use shall be by public sector undertakings or companies only and the labels of the products shall bear barcodes.
- (ii) The manufactures of Oxytocin formulations for export purposes shall, however, be open to both public and private sector. The packs of such manufacture for export shall also bear barcodes.
- (iii) The manufactures of active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) of Oxytocin shall supply the API only to the public sector manufacturers for manufacture of formulations for domestic use.
- (iv) However, for manufacture of formulations for export purpose, the API will be supplied to the manufacturers in both public and private sector.
- (v) The Oxytocin formulations meant for domestic consumption will be supplied by the manufactures to the registered hospitals and clinics in publicand private sector directly.
- (vi) The manufacturers can also supply the formulations to the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) and Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implant for Treatment (AMRIT) outlets or any other Government entity which may be specified by the Central Government for this purpose. However, these outlets will further supply the drug to the registered hospitals and clinics in public and private sector.
- (vii) The Oxytocin in any form or name shall not be sold through Retail Chemist.