

**Revamping of curriculum of agricultural and veterinary courses**

354. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has felt any need for revamping the curriculum for Veterinary Science Courses and Agriculture Science Courses across the country in view of the gaining importance of Climate Change;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Veterinary Science Under Graduate courses are regulated by the Veterinary Council of India. Curriculum for other undergraduate courses of Agriculture and Allied subjects and all Post Graduate subjects is revised through constitution of Dean's Committee and Broad Subject Matter Area Committees respectively at regular intervals at ICAR level.

(c) Question does not arise.

**Ban on pesticides in farming**

355. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any concrete steps to reduce the use/complete phase out/ban of pesticides in farming;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has constituted any expert committee in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Yes, the following steps have been taken by the Government:

(i) The pesticides are registered under the Insecticides Act, 1968 and rules made therein only after testing the efficacy and toxicity of the pesticides.