

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-519
ANSWERED ON 26/07/2024

AWARENESS ABOUT HAZARDS OF OVERUSE OF PESTICIDES

519. DR. FAUZIA KHAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether programmes have been implemented to raise awareness among farmers about the hazards of pesticide overuse and improper handling practices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether any survey has been carried out regarding the harmful effects of over usage of pesticides on birds, animals and other wild life;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether regulations or guidelines are in place for farmers to ensure safe storage, preparation and disposal of pesticides;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)

(a) to (c): The Government of India is implementing various programs to promote the strategy of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) which envisages pest management through cultural, mechanical and biological methods to prevent the excessive use and improper handling practices of chemical pesticides and only need based judicious use of chemical pesticides is suggested as last resort. One of the major objectives of IPM approach is creating

awareness among farming community on safe and judicious use of pesticides, improper handling practices as well as adverse effect of pesticides.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare through its Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), ICAR, 33 Central Integrated Pest Management Centers (CIPMCs), 13 Locust cum Central IPM Centers (RLCIPMC) and 01 Locust & IPM Research Centers (L&IPMRC) located in 28 States and 2 UTs, etc. conduct various training programmes viz. Farmers Field Schools (FFS), Two days and five days HRD programmes and 30 days' Season Long Training Programmes (SLTP) to educate & train farmers and state agriculture extension functionaries as well as pesticide dealers about safe, judicious & need based use of pesticides and promoting use of bio-pesticides to manage the crop pests. Farmers are sensitized/ educated to use pesticides according to their label claim to minimize hazards to human health and the environment. A total of 1379 nos. of programmes on Safe and judicious use of pesticides were conducted during 2020-21 to 2024-25 in which 46769 farmers were trained. The state-wise details of training programmes conducted by CIPMCs on safe and judicious use of pesticides is enclosed as **Annexure – I**.

(d) to (h): The Government of India has enacted a comprehensive legislation known as Insecticides Act, 1968 and Insecticides Rules, 1971 and pesticides are allowed for use in the country only after ensuring the efficacy and safety of the pesticides to prevent risk to human beings or animals or environment and for matters connected therewith

The Registration Committee (RC), constituted under section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 (the Act) while registering the pesticides for use in the country evaluates their safety and efficacy based on the field trials conducted at State Agriculture Universities/ICAR institutes and lab studies conducted at NABL /ISO:17025/ and GLP accredited laboratories. Based on the studies, Registration Committee approves the details of doses, crops, precautionary measures, antidotes etc on Label and Leaflets. The registered pesticides if used as per Label and Leaflets do not pose any harm to human beings, animals, environment and living organisms other than pests. However, no specific survey has been conducted so far for assessment of harmful effects of over usage of pesticides on birds, animals and other wild life.

Annexure-I

State-wise details of training programmes on safe and judicious use of chemical during 2020-21 to 2024-25

			2020-21		2021-22		2022-23		2023-24		2024-25		Total	
S.No.	States	CIPMCs	Number of Programs	Number of Farmers trained	Number of Programs	Number of Farmers trained	Number of Programs	Number of Farmers trained	Number of Programs	Number of Farmers trained	Number of Programs	Number of Farmers trained	Number of Programs	Number of Farmers trained
1	Haryana	Faridabad	16	560	14	490	11	385	2	68	2	68	45	1571
2	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	10	300	8	280	7	245	2	29	5	71	32	925
3	J&K	Jammu	7	210	6	210	12	625	4	140	0	0	29	1185
4		Srinagar	0	0	1	35	1	35	3	105	0	0	5	175
5	Punjab	Jalandhar	12	360	10	350	7	245	7	153	14	330	50	1438
6	Rajasthan	Sri Ganganagar	11	330	10	350	7	245	1	29	3	61	32	1015
7		Jaipur	2	159	3	146	3	131	6	1018	16	1324	30	2778
8	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	42	1028	38	1159	24	639	10	286	26	491	140	3603
9		Gorakhpur	15	563	12	505	8	351	6	152	21	478	62	2049
10		Agra	12	375	18	322	17	298	5	45	16	257	68	1297
11	Uttarakhand	Dehradun	10	300	10	370	6	210	1	21	5	141	32	1042
12	West Bengal	Kolkata	16	560	14	490	11	385	5	68	8	239	54	1742

13	Odisha	Bhubaneswar	19	665	30	1050	9	315	6	210	15	486	79	2726
14	Bihar	Patna	12	420	11	385	7	245	14	267	26	457	70	1774
15	Jharkhand	Ranchi	10	360	10	435	7	265	5	52	21	370	53	1482
16	Andaman and Nicobar	Port Blair	2	60	1	35	4	140	3	105	1	26	11	366
17	Assam	Guwahati	16	560	17	573	11	385	5	104	5	104	54	1726
18	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	4	120	4	140	4	140	4	140	0	0	16	540
19	Meghalaya	Shillong	6	210	4	140	4	140	1	55	1	55	16	600
20	Manipur	Imphal	9	173	5	173	1	100	2	70	1	35	18	551
21	Mizoram	Aizwal	6	180	4	140	4	140	4	70	0	0	18	530
22	Nagaland	Dimapur	6	180	4	140	4	140	2	70	2	70	18	600
23	Tripura	Agartala	6	180	4	140	4	140	4	140	0	0	18	600
24	Sikkim	Gangtok	6	180	1	25	4	140	4	140	0	0	15	485
25	Karnataka	Bangalore	24	994	21	836	18	759	10	350	5	175	78	3114
26	Telangana	Hyderabad	12	360	8	240	7	210	5	175	0	0	32	985
27	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	1	46	2	139	3	229	1	31	7	184	14	629
28	Kerala	Ernakulum	12	360	10	280	19	460	7	187	10	281	58	1568
29	Tamil Nadu	Trichy	10	300	10	497	7	245	2	61	9	222	38	1325
30	Maharashtra	Nagpur	3	105	36	2098	18	1740	1	51	6	185	64	4179
31		Nasik	8	251	9	300	7	210	3	112	3	112	30	985

32	Madhya Pradesh	Indore	12	470	8	310	7	266	3	105				
33		Morena	0	0	4	140	4	140	1	22	3	105	33	1256
34	Gujarat	Vadodara	1	50	2	100	1	100	4	140	1	22	9	412
35	Goa	Madgaon	3	90	0	0	0	0	3	64	0	0	6	154
36	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	8	284	8	283	7	141	4	28	10	246	37	982
Total			349	11343	357	13306	275	10584	150	4863	248	6673	1379	46769
