

Alternatives of Chemicals pesticides

†4359. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been considering to use alternative and unarmful pesticides, seeds of neem and other traditional seeds instead of chemicals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHHATTRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government is promoting the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach with increased reliance on bio pesticides and bio-control agents and judicious but limited use of agrochemicals:

(b) (i) The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) laboratories namely, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), Hyderabad and National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI), Lucknow have developed processes for production of bio pesticides from neem seeds and custard apple.

(ii) The Department of Bio-Technology has supported several R&D projects for the development of bio degradable and environment friendly botanical pesticides.

(iii) The Indian Agriculture Research Institute and other Institutes of Indian Council of Agriculture and Research (ICAR) and many State Agricultural Universities of the country have developed pesticidal products based on Margo/Neem oil, or the extracts from the seeds are commercially available.

(iv) The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals is also implementing a programme for development and usage of neem based pesticides with UNIDO assistance. This programme is being implemented through NGOs at two locations in West Bengal and Maharashtra.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.