

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1555
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11TH FEBRUARY, 2020

BIO-PESTICIDES IN AGRICULTURE

1555. SHRIMATI DARSHANA VIKRAM JARDOSH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a concrete policy to promote the use of bio-pesticides in agriculture so as to enhance the production of toxic/chemical free agri-products in the country and to provide health and natural food to the people of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a concrete policy to enhance Research and Development activities in bio-pesticides sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether India is complying with the International quality standards in bio-pesticide sector; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the concrete reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): To promote the use of bio pesticides in agriculture, Central Insecticide Board & Registration Committee has formulated simplified guidelines for registration of bio pesticides as compared to chemical pesticides. During Provisional registration granted under Section 9 (3B) of the Insecticides Act, 1968, the applicant is allowed to commercialize the bio-pesticide product, unlike chemical pesticides.

Government of India through organic farming schemes of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) aims for sustainable agriculture production with eco-friendly process in tune with nature, promoting organic inputs and produce chemical free agriculture produce for improving the health condition of the people.

Further, use of bio-pesticides is promoted by educating farmers through Farmer Field schools and Human Resource Development programmes (2 & 5 days) under Integrated Pest Management approach. The bio-pesticides (*Trichoderma*, *Metazhizium*, *Beauveria* etc.) are also multiplied in the Central and State Government laboratories and distributed to farmers.

(c) & (d): To enhance Research and Development activities in bio-pesticides sector, Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) is implementing various research programmes in different crops like Rice, cotton, vegetables, oilseeds, pulses, fruit crops, in which use of bio-pesticides are recommended.

Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has identified and field tested several entomopathogenic fungi and nematodes as bio-pesticides for the eco-friendly management of pests and diseases. A large number of bio-control agents and their technologies have been commercialized and are available in market.

(e) & (f): The bio-pesticides are tested through 08 laboratories including those of National Institute of Plant Health Management, Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) and State Agriculture Universities as per the International quality standards.
