

Use of bio-products to control pests

2205. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some bio-product manufacturers are selling several products in the name of Amino Acids, Sea Weed Extract, herbal extracts, plant extracts and enzymes etc. to control pests and promote plant growth;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the use of bio-products, apart from causing risk to human beings, results in financial loss in certain cases due to increased cost of cultivation and sometimes crop loss to the farmers; and

(d) if so, the action taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Insecticides Act, 1968 is applicable to all the insecticides, pesticides and fungicides which are defined under Section 3(e) of the Act and are listed in the schedule of the Act. Registration Committee constituted U/s 5 of the Insecticide Act 1968 registers pesticide including biopesticides, botanical pesticides and Plant Growth Regulator (PGR) for use in the country. So far three botanical pesticides viz. Azadirachtin (Neem Based) Pyrethrum & Cymbopogon have been registered in different formulation is given in Statement (*See below*).

As seaweeds/seaweed extract, Amino Acids and the like are not included in the said schedule, these products are not covered under the Insecticides Act 1968.

(c) and (d) If bio-products registered under the Insecticides Act, 1968 are used as per the approved label claims, then no risk to human beings or financial loss is likely to accrue. Government of Haryana has prohibited sale of bioproducts, and the decision has been challenged in the Punjab and Haryana High Court. The High Court has directed laboratory evaluation of bio-products. Further, it is mentioned that the registration of botanical pesticides such as neem based pesticides is done after evaluation of efficacy and safety data, generated on all important parameters as laid down in the guidelines of the Registration Committee, constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968. The functionaries of the Central and State Governments impart training to the farmers on judicious use of insecticides including that of botanical pesticides.

Statement

Botanical pesticides registered under the Insecticides Act, 1968

Neem based

- (1) Azadirachtin 0.03% EC
- (2) Azadirachtin 0.15% EC
- (3) Azadirachtin 0.3% EC
- (4) Azadirachtin 0.5% EC
- (5) Azadirachtin 1% EC
- (6) Azadirachtin 5% EC
- (7) Azadirachtin 25% EC

Cymbopogon

- (1) Cymbopogon 20% EC

Pyrethrum (Pyrethrin)

- (1) Pyrethrum extract 2% Tech.
- (2) Pyrethrum extract Refined 25%
- (3) Pyrethrum extract Oleo Resin 25%
- (4) Pyrethrum 0.05% w/w (HH)
- (5) Pyrethrum 0.2% (HH)
- (6) Pyrethrum 10% (HH)
- (7) Pyrethrum 0.4% Mat
- (8) Pyrethrum 0.2% Coil
- (9) Pyrethrum 0.3% Agarbatti

MSP of cotton

2206. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that cotton farmers are demanding MSP of cotton at Rs.5000 in view of input costs;