GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3066**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 19/07/2019

**USE OF PESTICIDES ON CROPS**

3066. SHRI SANJAY SINGH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers in Punjab use the highest amounts of pesticides on their crops;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the reasons for the data showing otherwise; and

(d) the steps taken to reduce the amount of pesticides being used?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

( SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): As informed by the State of Punjab, the consumption of pesticide in the State was 5743 MT, 5843 MT and 5835 MT (Technical Grade) during 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 respectively.

It is submitted that there is no study/report available to state that farmers in Punjab use the highest amount of pesticides on their crops.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): The Department is propagating the use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). The IPM seeks to promote cultural, mechanical, biological methods of pest control and recommends judicious use of chemical pesticides. This Department has established 35 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) across the country including one in Punjab (Jalandhar). These CIPMCs propagate the use of Integrated Pest Management and recommend judicious use of chemical pesticide. The CIPMCs, inter alia, releases bio-control agents in the fields, conducts Famers Field Schools and organizes IPM orientation programs. In the last three years, 5957.25 million of bio-control agents have been released, 2142 nos. of Farmers Field Schools and 391 nos. of IPM orientation programs have been organized by the CIPMCs.

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