

## **Plant Protection**

Punjab, Granary of India, is predominately agrarian state with the cropping intensity of 189% and approximately 98% area is irrigated. It contributes 22% Wheat, 11 % Paddy and 10% Cotton in the national pool and 3% wheat, 2% Rice and 2% cotton at world level. The productivity consequently production has increased tremendously with the help of quality inputs viz. high yielding varieties, irrigation facilities, Pesticides and Fertilizers, and no doubt favourable weather conditions. For the uninterrupted supply of pesticides, 260 sale points of Department of Agriculture, 1033 of Co-operative Department, 8453 of private dealers are working.

During the year 2011-12, 5690 MT pesticides (Technical Grade) and 9000 Lt. Bio-pesticide was consumed against the target of consumption of 6500 MT of pesticide (Technical Grade) and 10000 Lt. respectively and there was no shortage of any pesticide. To ensure the availability of quality pesticides, the state has three pesticides testing laboratories with capacity of testing of 3900 samples (1300 samples each) of pesticides which are situated at Bathinda, Amritsar and Ludhiana. 3724 samples have been drawn and out of total 124 samples were found misbranded till 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 by the Agriculture Development Officers-cum- Insecticide Inspectors of the state. The responsible defaulters are being prosecuted as per the provisions of the Insecticide Act 1968 and Rules 1971. Furthermore, the flying squads have also been constituted at state and district level. They were instructed to make the surprise checking of the dealers and distributors of pesticides. Besides, a special campaign for testing the quality of pesticides during Kharif and Rabi seasons was also done.

This branch is pursuing following cases in;

(a). Punjab and Haryana High Court :

S.No	Court case Number	Case Name	Previous Date of Hearing	Remarks/Next Date of Hearing
1	10138/2006	Capt. Sarabjit Singh vs	30.3.2012	Reserve for Decision

		State		
2.	12734/2005	Hari Bhari Env. Protection Soc. Vs State	26.05.2011	Admitted
3.	11243/2008	Crop Care Federation of India vs State	19.05.2011	Admitted
4.	18052/2011	Karnail Singh vs Union of India and others	20.3.2012	16.5.2012

(b). Chief Judicial Magistrate level cases;

S.No	Case Name	Previous Date of Hearing	Remarks/Next Date of Hearing
1	Rajinder Bisht vs Dr G. S. Gill	07.4.2012	03.04.2012