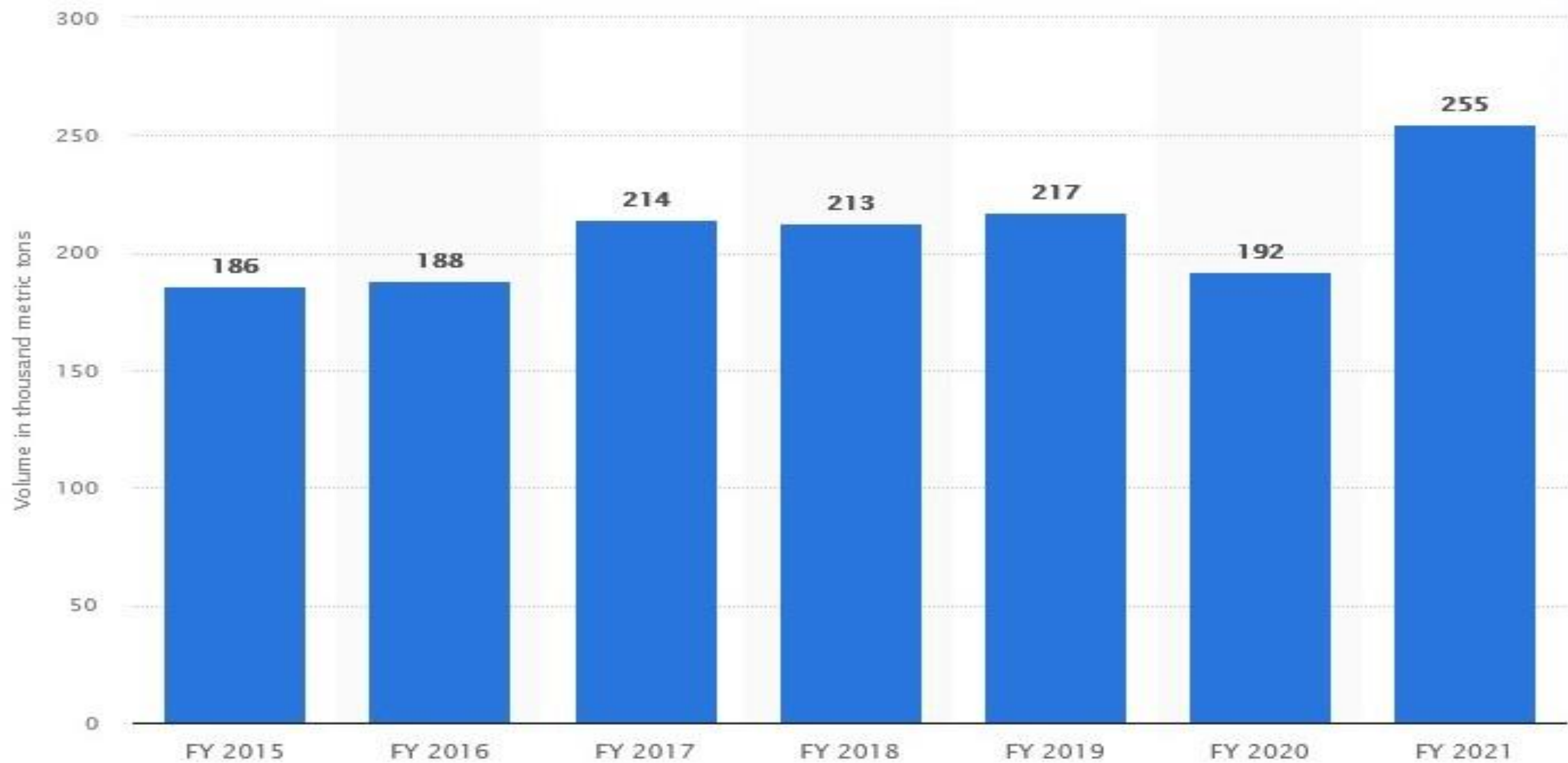


Pesticide Exposure & Poisoning: Legal Implications

Dr. Narasimha Reddy Donthi
Public Policy Expert and Campaigner

Pesticide Industry

- 255,000 tonnes of production (2020-21)
- Rs.23,220 crores in 2020 by sales (Croplife)
- Annual growth of 10.3% over 2019
- Over the last 5 years, CAGR of 6.1%
- 125 plus production units
- Over 800 formulation units
- 1,46,747 retail outlets(2006-07)



Agro-chemicals Usage in Maharashtra

Year	Agro-chemicals in MTs
2010-11	8,317
2011-12	8,926
2012-13	10,563
2013-14	10,969
2014-15	11,239
2015-16	11,280

Conditions of Use

No PPE

- Expensive
- Humid
- Local materials

Socio-economic

- Marginal farmers
- Agricultural labour
- Livelihoods
- Illiterate
- accessibility

Geographical

- Seamless
- Highly interactive

Vulnerable

- Women
- Ecology
- Children
- Others

చిన్నారికి వృద్ధాప్య ఛాయలు



చిన్నారుల్లో పౌష్టికాహార లోపం నివారణకు ఎన్ని చర్యలు తీసుకుంటున్నా ఆశించిన ఫలితం ఉండటం లేదు. ఇందుకు కర్ణాటకలోని కౌప్పుళ జిల్లాకు చెందిన హనుమం

తప్ప, శాంతమ్మ కుమార్తె అనూష (11 నెలల) పరిస్థితే నిదర్శనం. అనూషకు శరీరమంతా ముడతలతో వృద్ధాప్య ఛాయలు కనిపిస్తున్నాయి. ఈ వయసులో పిల్లలు గినుంచి 10 కిలోల బరువుంటారు. ఈ పాప కేవలం 3 కిలోల బరువు ఉందని, అపౌష్టికతలో ఇదే ఆఖరు దశ అని ఆమెకు చికిత్స అందిస్తున్న వైద్యుడు శివరాజ్ తెలిపారు. ఈమెకు రక్తహీనత ఉందని బాలిక తల్లి రక్తహీనతతో బాధపడుతోందన్నారు. బాలికకు తల్లి పాలు సరిగా పట్టించకపోయినా ఇలాంటి సమస్య తలెత్తే అవకాశం ఉందని ఆయన అభిప్రాయపడ్డారు. తమ ఊరిలో అంగన్ వాడీ కేంద్రం లేకనే పరిస్థితి ఇలా తయారైందని అనూష తల్లి దండ్రులు ఆవేదన వ్యక్తం చేస్తున్నారు.

— న్యూస్ టుడే, సింధునూరు (కర్ణాటక)

Pesticide Poisonings in India

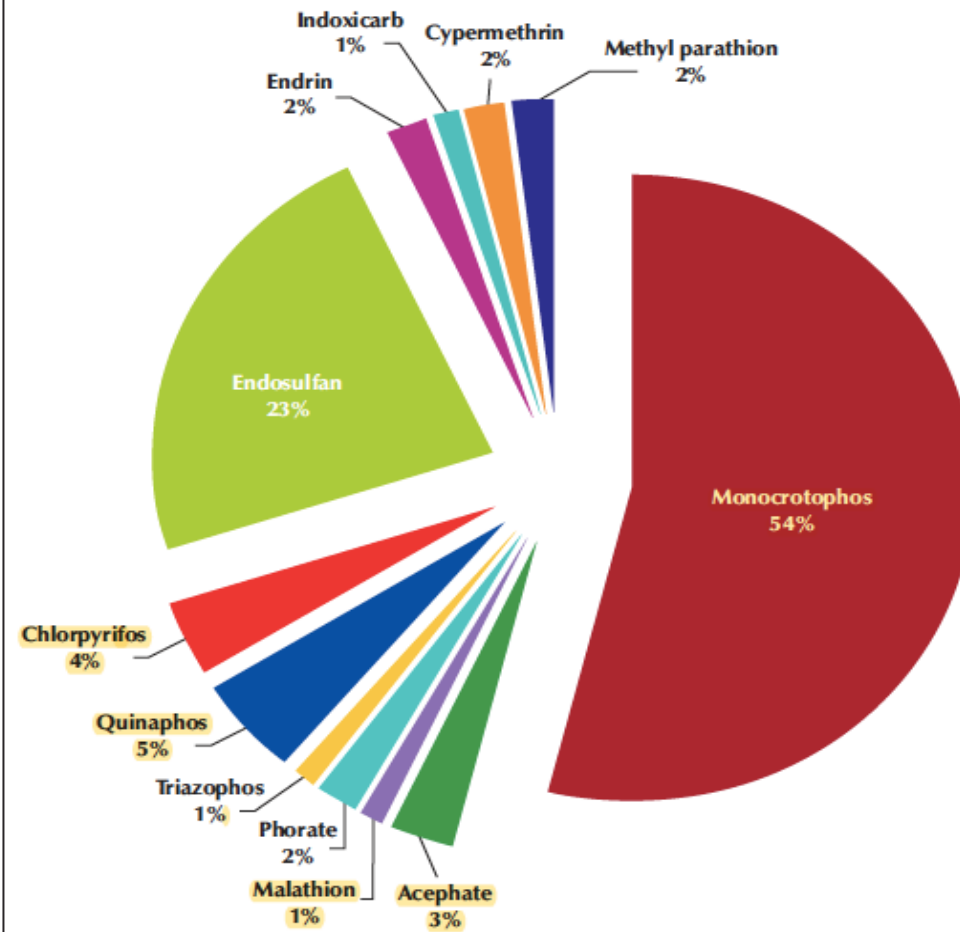
NCRB records shows that a total of 441,918 pesticide suicides reported in India for the period 1995-2015, with an annual average of 22,095.

Ref: Ranjit D., SciDev.Net Mar.2020.

<https://phys.org/news/2020-03-poisoning-cases-mar-india-global.html>

NCRB reports, death due to accidental intake of insecticides/pesticides in 2015 in India was 7672.

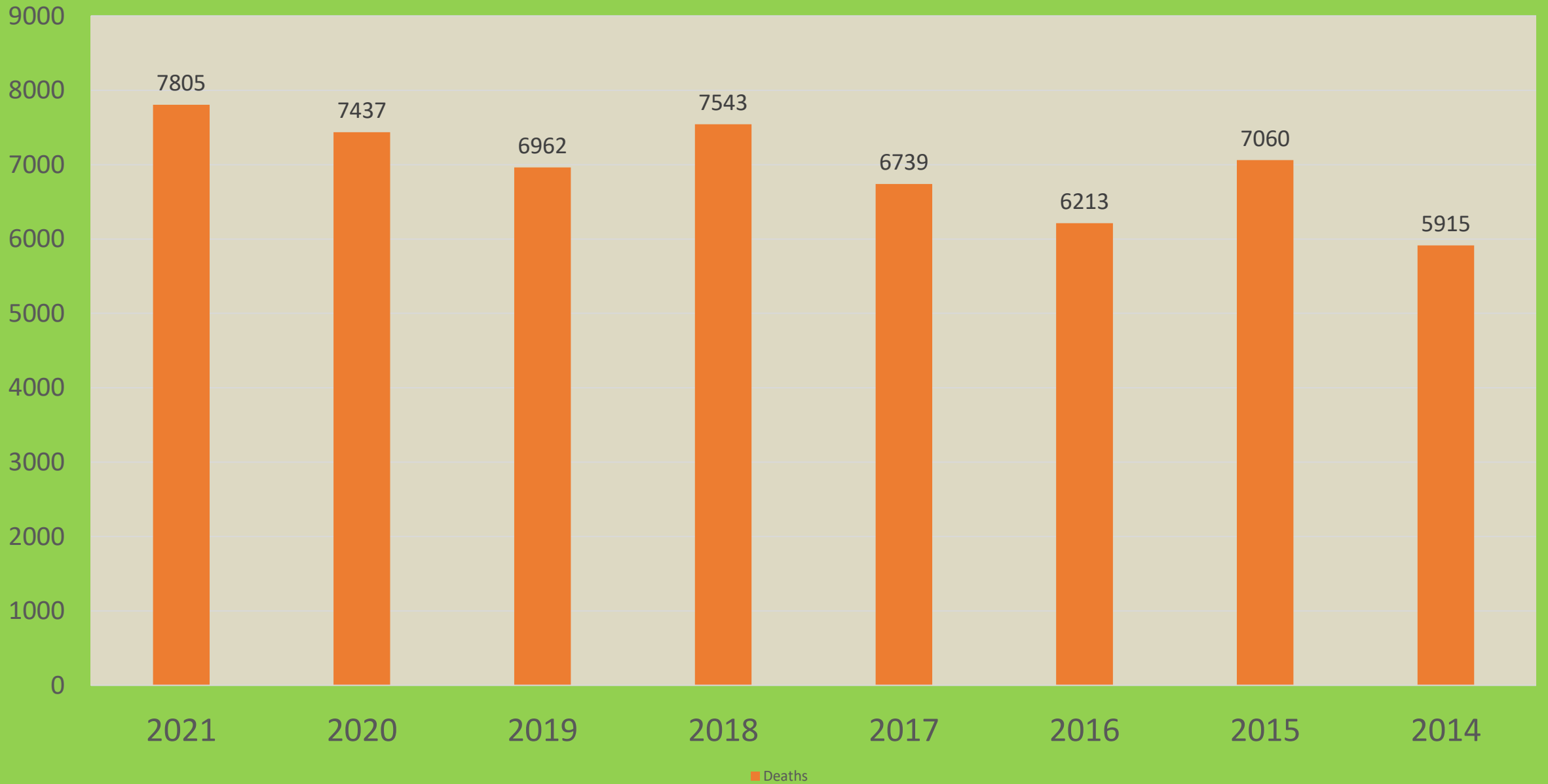
Figure 1: Proportion of identified pesticides responsible for all deaths reported at MCM hospital, Warangal, 1997-2001.



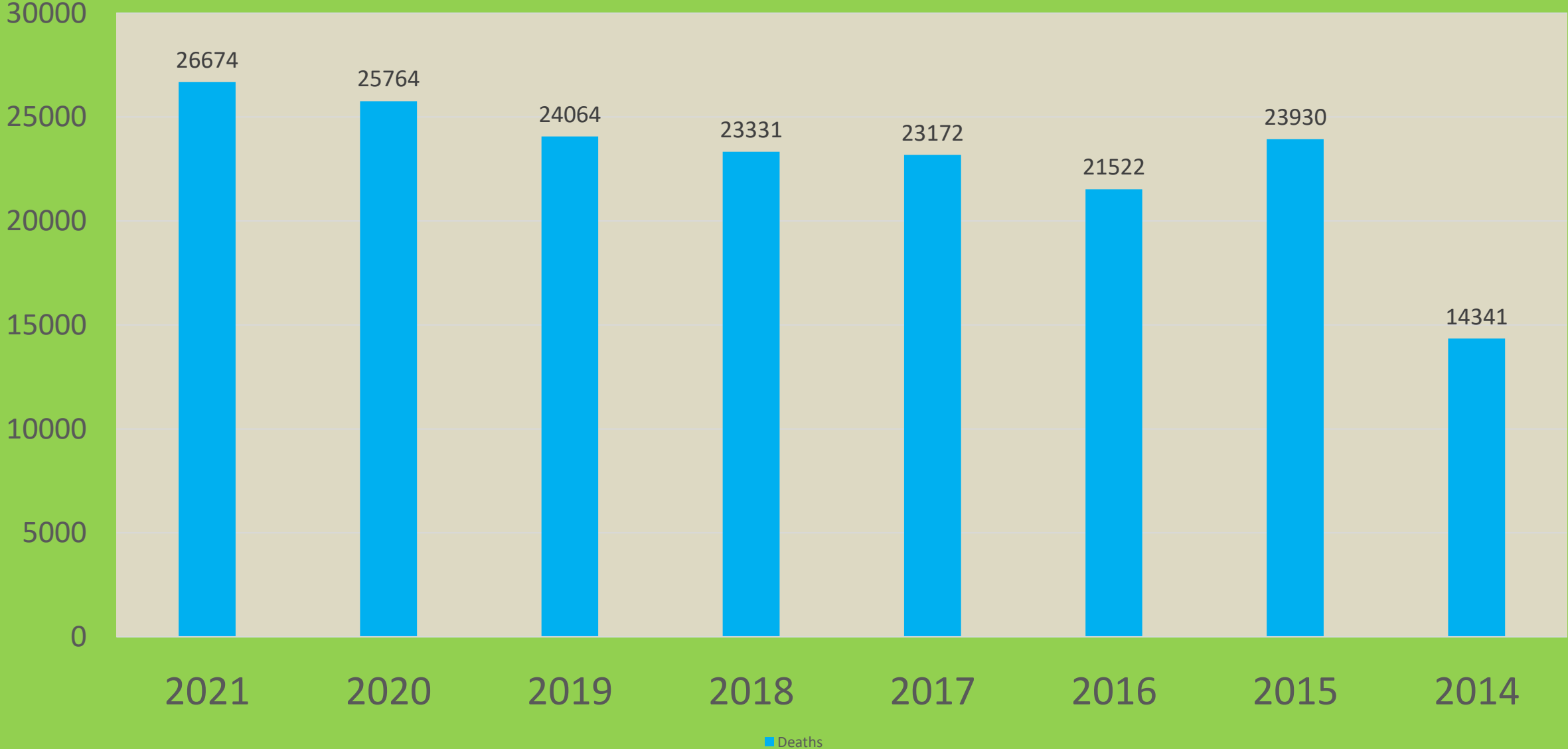
Source: data from Srinivas Rao 2005

Ref: WHO, 2009. Health implications from monocrotophos use: a review of the evidence in India.

Accidental intake of pesticides: NCRB data



Self intake of pesticides: NCRB data



Pesticide Poisonings in Maharashtra, India that consumed highest amount of chemical pesticides in the last 5 years

Occupational poisoning cases

(RTI data from Agri. Dpt., January 2018):

- ✓ 18,108 with 809 casualties for the period 2011-12 to 2017-18
- ✓ During 2017-18: 2787 cases and 63 casualties

Pesticide bans in Maharashtra

- In 2017, government ordered a six month prohibition for five pesticides, including **monocrotophos & acephate**.
- In March 2018, the Agri. Dept. had requested CIB&RC to ban them permanently;.
- The same 5 pesticides were again prohibited in September 2018.

New study reveals dramatic rise in global pesticide poisonings

December 9, 2020 in Media



Worldwide poisonings up from 25 million in 1990 to 385 million today

In a [comprehensive study](#) released today, scientists report that pesticide poisonings on farms around the world have risen dramatically since the last global assessment 30 years ago. Based on an evaluation of available poisoning data from countries all over the world, the researchers conclude that there are about 385 million cases of acute poisonings each year, up from an estimated 25 million cases in 1990.

44% of the global population working on farms, about 860 million farmers and agricultural workers are poisoned every year.

Total fatalities around the world from unintended pesticide poisonings are estimated at around 11,000 deaths per year. Nearly 60% of which occur in just one country, India, indicating serious problems with pesticide use.

Boedeker et al. *BMC Public Health* (2020) 20:1875
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-020-09939-0>

BMC Public Health

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

The global distribution of acute unintentional pesticide poisoning: estimations based on a systematic review

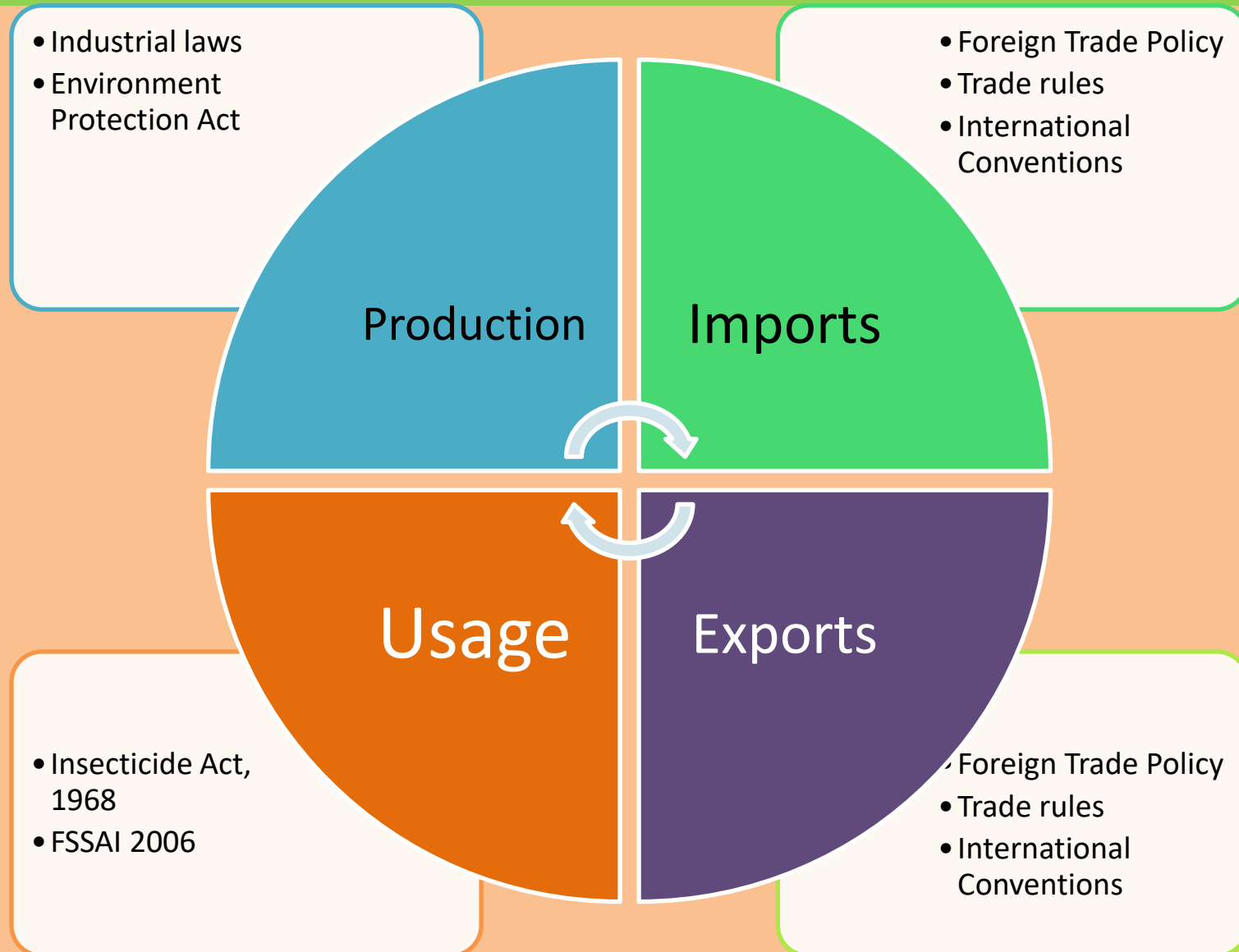


Wolfgang Boedeker^{1*}, Meriel Watts², Peter Clausing¹ and Emily Marquez³

Who is responsible for pesticide poisoning?

Is there a legal liability

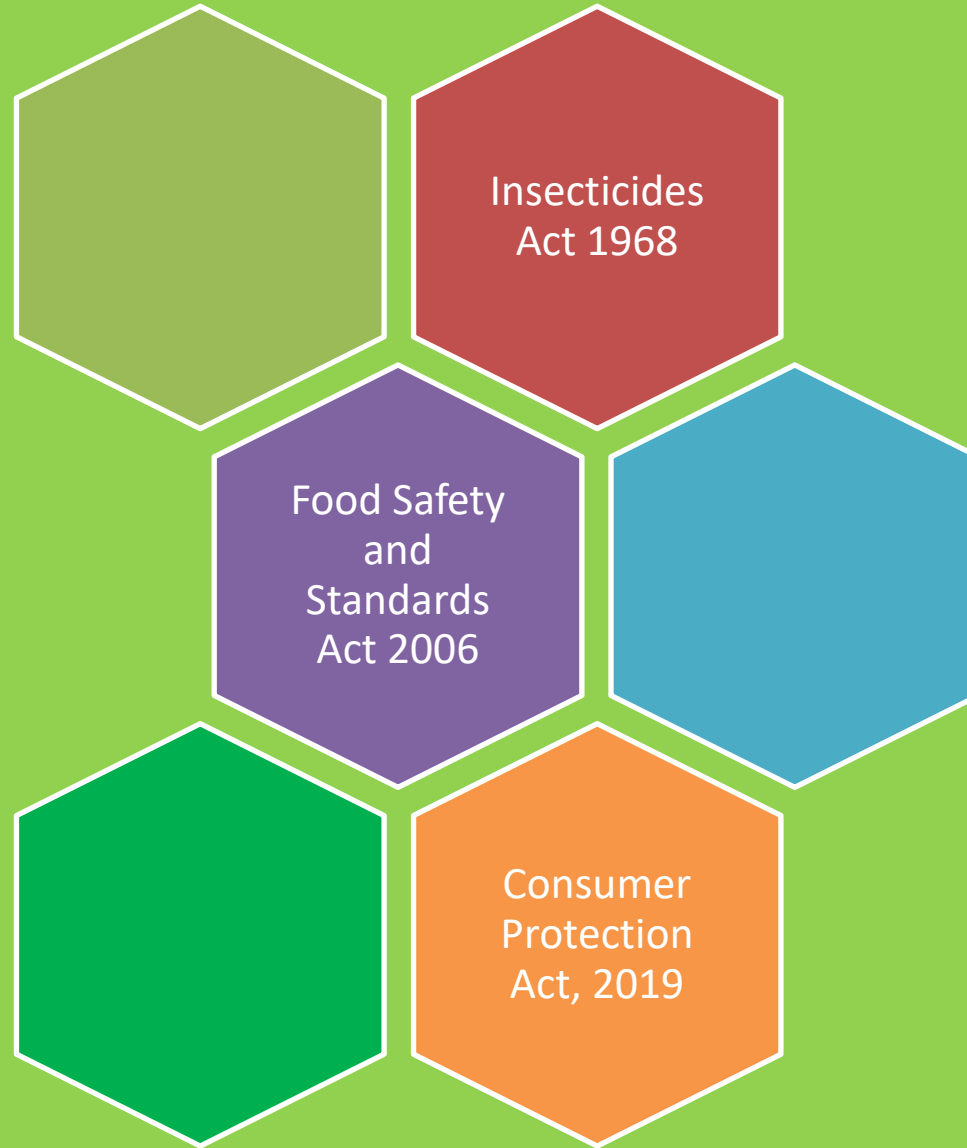
Pesticide Legal frame



We are asking...

- Replacement of Insecticide Act, 1968
- Build product liability and accountability
- Pesticide Management Bill 2017 as follows:
 - 61 suggestions (PAN INDIA)
 - Companies to take economic, social and ecological liability
 - Price control
 - Continuous monitoring and review
 - State governments autonomy
- **Compensation for affected farmers**
- **Banning all hazardous pesticides**

Legal Framework



Product Liability

- recognises that failure to give proper instruction or information or warning
- resulting in injury to property, persons etc is legally actionable
- for which the manufacture, supplier and sometimes even the product seller would be liable

Thank You

- Email:

nreddy.donthi22@gmail.com

- Ph. 9010205742