

The Insecticides Rules, 1971 provide for the regulatory framework for pesticides in India. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has proposed significant amendments in the said Rules to improve regulatory efficiency and business environment in order to serve the farming community better. Some of the important amendments proposed in the Draft Amendments to the Rules are as follows:

1. The numbers of forms and returns to be filed by various entities are proposed to be reduced from 30 to 22 to eliminate redundancies.
2. Educational qualifications are being introduced in the manufacturing and trade activities in the pesticides sector to ensure better quality of the product and advice on pesticides use to the farmers.
3. The system of periodic renewal of licences in manufacture and trade related activities is proposed to be jettisoned.
4. A system of self-certification is sought to be introduced in the manufacture and trade in the pesticides sector to foster a more active participation of the private sector in regulation.