

Insecticides Act 1968, Objectives, Authorities, Importance

August 6, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



The **Insecticides Act 1968** is a central legislation enacted by the Government of India to **regulate the import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution, and use of insecticides**. The Act aims to ensure that insecticides available in the market are **safe, effective, and of standard quality**, thereby protecting human beings, animals, and the environment from harmful effects.

The Act came into force on **1 August 1971**, along with the **Insecticides Rules, 1971**, which provide the procedural framework for its implementation.

Insecticides Act 1968

The **Insecticides Act, 1968** was enacted to regulate the **quality, registration, manufacture, and sale of insecticides** in India. The Act also provides for **licensing, inspection, and enforcement** to protect farmers, consumers, and the environment.

Insecticides Act 1968 Objectives

The **Insecticides Act 1968** was enacted to regulate the **import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution, and use of insecticides** in India, ensuring their **quality, safety, and effectiveness** while protecting **human health, livestock, crops, and the environment**.

- **Regulate** the import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution, and use of insecticides.
- **Ensure** that only **safe, effective, and quality** insecticides are available in the market.
- **Prevent** the manufacture and sale of **misbranded, adulterated, and substandard** insecticides.
- **Protect** human beings, animals, crops, and the environment from harmful effects of insecticides.
- **Establish** a system for the **registration** of insecticides before their commercial use.
- **Provide** a licensing framework for manufacturers, dealers, distributors, and sellers.
- **Promote** the safe handling, storage, packaging, and labeling of insecticides.
- **Strengthen** quality control through inspection, testing, and enforcement mechanisms.

Authorities Under the Act

The **Insecticides Act, 1968** establishes various authorities to regulate the **registration, manufacture, sale, quality control, and safe use of insecticides** across India.

1. Central Insecticides Board (CIB)

- Advises the **Central and State Governments** on technical matters related to insecticides.
- Recommends measures for the **safe use** of insecticides.
- Reviews scientific developments and suggests policy improvements.
- Promotes coordination among government agencies on insecticide regulation.

2. Registration Committee (RC)

- Registers insecticides after evaluating their **safety, efficacy, and quality**.
- Examines applications for the import and manufacture of insecticides.
- May **approve, refuse, suspend, or cancel** registrations based on scientific evidence.
- Reviews registered insecticides when new safety concerns arise.

Also Read:- **Indian Independence Act 1947**

3. Licensing Authority

- Grants, renews, suspends, or cancels licences for the **manufacture, sale, distribution, and stocking** of insecticides.
- Ensures compliance with the provisions of the Act and the Insecticides Rules, 1971.
- Monitors whether licensees meet prescribed conditions.

4. Insecticide Inspectors

- Inspect manufacturing units, warehouses, and retail outlets.
- Collect insecticide samples for laboratory analysis.

- Search, seize, and investigate suspected violations.
- Initiate legal action against offenders under the Act.

5. Insecticide Analysts

- Analyze insecticide samples in **notified laboratories**.
- Determine whether products meet prescribed quality standards.
- Submit analytical reports used as evidence in enforcement proceedings.
- Assist regulatory authorities in maintaining quality control.

Importance of the Insecticides Act, 1968

The **Insecticides Act, 1968** plays a vital role in regulating the **quality, safety, and use of insecticides** in India, ensuring the protection of **farmers, consumers, livestock, and the environment** while supporting sustainable agricultural practices.

- **Ensures** that only **registered and quality-tested insecticides** are manufactured, imported, and sold.
- **Protects** farmers from **misbranded, adulterated, and substandard** insecticides.
- **Safeguards** human health, livestock, and beneficial organisms from the harmful effects of unsafe insecticides.
- **Promotes** the safe manufacture, storage, packaging, labeling, and distribution of insecticides.
- **Strengthens** regulatory oversight through registration, licensing, inspection, and laboratory testing.
- **Enhances** agricultural productivity by ensuring the availability of effective crop protection products.
- **Supports** environmental protection by regulating the use of hazardous insecticides and encouraging responsible pesticide management.

Replacement by New Legislation

To modernize pesticide regulation, the Government introduced the **Pesticide Management Bill** (which seeks to replace the Insecticides Act, 1968). The proposed law aims to strengthen regulation, improve farmer protection, enhance compensation mechanisms, and align India's pesticide framework with modern scientific and safety standards.

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/insecticides-act-1968/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.