

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1957
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2003
USE OF CHEMICAL FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDE ON SOIL
MARGARET ALVA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to minimize the use of Chemical Fertilizers and Pesticides on the soil; and
- (b) if so, the steps initiated by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): The average consumption of fertilizers and pesticides in the country is 91.49 kg/ha and 0.57 kg/ha respectively during 2001-02 which is not considered high. However, to ensure that there is no ill effect of any kind due to imbalanced use of plant nutrients, the Government propagates the use of integrated nutrients combining chemical fertilizers, organic manures and biofertilizers on the basis of soil tests as per the requirement of the crop.

To minimize the use of chemical pesticides the Government is promoting the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) which is an ecofriendly approach which aims at keeping pest below economic thresholds level by employing all available alternate pest control methods and techniques such as cultural, mechanical and biological control with greater emphasis on use of Bio-pesticides and pesticides of plant-origin like Neem formulations.