

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:15
ANSWERED ON:05.07.2004
NEGLIGENCE ON CROP SAFETY
Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there is negligence on the part of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in the matter of crop safety;
- (b) whether additional charge of the crop safety affairs has been assigned to the Deputy Director General of another faculty for a long time;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the number of projects/proposals related to crop safety received by ICAR and approved during the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 15 TO BE ANSWERED ON 5th JULY, 2004 REGARDING NEGLIGENCE ON CROP SAFETY.

(a) The ICAR is mandated to plan, undertake, aid, promote and coordinate Agricultural Education and Research. Research in the plant protection of field and horticultural crops, which is a component of crop safety, is looked after by the ICAR. In this mandated area, continuous agricultural research, education and frontline extension is being undertaken and, hence, there is no negligence on part of the ICAR.

(b) Research in plant protection in field and horticultural crops is looked after exclusively at a specialized level of an Assistant Director General. There is no sanctioned post of Deputy Director General for Crop Safety Affairs. The post of Assistant Director General (Plant Protection) has been filled up on regular basis, in 1999.

(c) Not applicable, Sir.

(d) 306 project proposals were received in the area of plant protection during the last 3 years, out of which, after critical evaluation and assessment, 76 have been sanctioned by the ICAR.