

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:279
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2009
LOSS OF FOODGRAINS
Saroj Shri Tufani

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some portion of foodgrains produced in the country get spoiled due to various diseases and insects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the preventive steps being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has placed a proposal before the SAARC countries to create a collective crop safety cycle; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the member countries thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 279 DUE FOR REPLY ON 8TH DECEMBER, 2009.

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. While scientific estimates of crop losses due to pests, weeds and diseases in the country are not available as the damage depends on various factors including weather conditions, crop cultural practices and plant protection practices, .the crop losses due to insect pests, diseases and weeds in the country are assessed to range between 10 to 30 percent annually, depending on severity of pest attack.

(c): The Government has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as the main plank of plant protection strategy under the scheme `Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach`. The Government also provides assistance for suitable plant protection interventions through schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Macro Management of Agriculture, National Food Security Mission etc.

(d): No, Madam.

(e): Does not arise.