

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1305

ANSWERED ON:14.07.2009

LOSS DUE TO PEST ATTACKS

Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Credit Analysis and Research Limited (CARE) report, the country loses approximately 18% of crop yield valued at Rs. 90,000 crore due to pests attacks every year; and

(b) if so, the corrective action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): The newspaper Financial Express dated 26-02-2009 carried a report attributed to CARE that the country loses approximately 18% of crop valued at Rs.90,000 crores due to pest attacks each year.

(b): It has been estimated that crop losses due to pests including insect pests, diseases, rodents and weeds range between 10 to 30% every year depending on climatic and environmental conditions and severity of attack.

Under the scheme titled "Strengthening & Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India" Integrated Pest Management (IPM) has been adopted as main plank of plant protection strategy to save the crops from pest attacks. The Government of India has established 31 Central IPM Centres in 28 States and one Union Territory. The mandate of these Centres is pest/disease monitoring, production and release of bio-control agents/bio- pesticides, conservation of bio-control agents and human resource development in IPM by imparting training to agriculture/horticulture extension officers and farmers at grass root level by organizing Farmers' Field Schools (FFSs).

IPM package of practices for pest/disease management in 77 major crops have been developed in collaboration with State Department of Agriculture/Horticulture/ICAR Institutions/State Agriculture Universities which have been circulated to all States/UTs and have been posted on website www.dacnet.nic.in/ppin for use by the extension functionaries and the farmers.