

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1879

ANSWERED ON:09.03.2010

USE OF PESTICIDES

Agarwal Shri Rajendra;Lal Shri Kirodi ;Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai;Sharma Dr. Arvind Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any assessment has been made by the Government regarding the losses incurred due to the improper use of pesticides and insecticides;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme to educate farmers about judicious use of pesticides and insecticides; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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) & (b): No assessment has been undertaken regarding crop loss due to improper use of pesticides and insecticides. However, it is estimated that crop losses due to various pests range from 10 to 30% every year depending on the severity of pest attack.

(c) & (d): To prevent/reduce crop losses due to pests and to educate farmers about judicious use of pesticides and insecticides, Government of India is implementing a scheme, "Strengthening & Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India" since 1991-92 by adopting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as main plank of plant protection strategy in over all crop production programmes. Under the ambit of IPM programme, the Government of India has established 31 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres in 28 State and one UT. 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 in farmers' fields. So far 12,879 Farmers' Field Schools have been organised wherein 54,066 Agriculture/ Horticulture Extension Officers and 3,87,335 farmers in different States/UTs have been trained on latest IPM technology in various crops throughout the country.