

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3765
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010
PESTICIDES IN IRRIGATION WATER
Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the excessive use of pesticides has led to contamination of water used for irrigation resulting in excessive pesticide residue in agricultural produce;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any law in force to regulate pesticide presence in irrigated water and agricultural produce;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the action plan of the Government to address this issue?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): No, Madam. There is no possibility of contamination of irrigation water by the pesticides if used as per label claims approved by the Registration Committee constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968. The Registration Committee considers data on various parameters like Chemistry, bio efficacy, toxicity, packaging and processing including persistence of the pesticides in soil, water and plant to ensure efficacy for intended use and safety to human beings, animals and the environment. Further, the pesticides are used in small quantities which are degraded through microorganisms, photolysis, thermal effect, etc.

Under Central Sector Scheme of Ministry of Agriculture namely, "Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National Level" ground water samples from intensive agricultural fields are analysed, besides other agri-commodities, on regular basis for possible presence of pesticide residues by laboratories located in various parts of India.