

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1774  
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2010  
PESTICIDES IN FOOD ITEMS  
Acharia Shri Basudeb

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a study at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore has found high level of presence of pesticide residues in various food items in the country, which have adverse effect on health;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the response of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the corrective measures taken/ proposed by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) & (b) : The National Institute of Advanced Studies, (NIAS) has carried out field studies with an academic interest in different agro ecological regions in India covering 28 districts in 12 Indian States. The study focused on those crops that consume more pesticides such as paddy, cotton and vegetables. The study has not conducted pesticide residues analysis in various food items and its adverse effect on health. Instead it looked into number of times these pesticides were applied and pesticide usage pattern on the mentioned crops in a cropping session. One of the objectives of the study was to conduct a field survey on use of these chemicals by the end users.

(c) & (d) : Do not arise.