

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2133

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2010

USE OF ENDOSULFAN

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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints of the disastrous effects including death of people due to the use of endosulfan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to ban Endosulfan in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has any scheme for treatment and rehabilitation of people affected by its use;
- (f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (g) whether India has advocated the use of Endosulfan in the sixth meeting of Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to the Stockholm Convention recently concluded in Geneva;
- (h) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (i) the details of the countries which have banned Endosulfan?

**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) to (d): There were reports of unusual illness in certain villages of Kasargod district of Kerala, allegedly caused by aerial spraying of Endosulfan over cashew plantation. The Government constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. C.D. Mayee the then Agriculture Commissioner, in 2004 to examine previous reports to assess safety of Endosulfan in regard to public health and make recommendations regarding further use of endosulfan. The Committee inter alia concluded that use of endosulfan was not clearly linked to the alleged health problems in Kasargod district of Kerala. On the basis of the recommendations of the Committee, use of Endosulfan is continued in the country except in the state of Kerala where it has been kept on hold vide notification No. S.O. 1874(E) dated 31.10.2006. Recently, the Government has decided to have a fresh review of Endosulfan conducted based on the latest scientific information available.

(e) & (f): Government of Kerala has reported that several welfare and rehabilitation measures have been proposed and launched by the Government for the benefit of the people in that area.

(g) & (h): In the sixth meeting of Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee (POPRC) India suggested not to proceed further for any recommendation concerning Endosulfan until the concerns, both procedural and substantive, are addressed suitably by the Conference of Parties of the Stockholm Convention.

(i): List of the countries which have banned Endosulfan and of countries where Endosulfan is being used is annexed.