

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1919  
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2011  
DAMAGE OF FOODGRAINS DUE TO DISEASES  
Vinay Kumar Alias Vinnu Shri

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

- (a) whether a large quantity of foodgrains produced in the country are damaged /get perished due to diseases and pests infestation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government/ Agricultural Research Institute provide assistance to farmers to take the preventive steps in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has presented a proposal before the South Asian Association for Regional Corporation (SAARC) countries to create a collective crop protection cycle; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the member countries in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI ARUN YADAV)

(a)&(b): Yes, Madam. While scientific estimates of crop losses due to pests, weeds and diseases in the country are not available as the damage depends on various factors including weather conditions, crop cultural practices and plant protection practices, it has been estimated that crop losses due to pests including insect pests, diseases, rodents and weeds range between 10 to 30 per cent annually depending on severity of pest attack.

(c)&(d): Yes, Madam. To prevent /reduce crop losses due to pest, the Government has been implementing a scheme, namely, "Strengthening & Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India" adopting Integrated Pest Management as the main plank of plant protection strategy through Farmers' Field Schools organized by 31 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres in 28 States and one Union Territory. Suitable interventions for plant protection are also made through other schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Macro Management of Agriculture, National Horticulture Mission, National Food Security Mission etc.

(e): No, Madam.

(f): Does not arise.