

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2290
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009
USE OF SUB -STANDARD PESTICIDES
Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that farmers are losing their crops heavily on account of use of sub-standard pesticides and insecticides;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the corrective action taken by the Government in this regard?

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): The Government has received representations from the pesticide industry regarding manufacture and sale of spurious pesticides in the market. A news item published in the newspaper 'Business Standard' dated 22-09-2008 had mentioned annual crop loss worth Rs. 6,000 crore on account of spurious pesticides.

(c): Quality of pesticides is checked by the State Governments through regular drawal and analysis of pesticide samples by Insecticide Inspectors, Insecticide Analysts and Pesticide Testing Laboratories under the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968. 21 States and one UT have set up 55 State Pesticide Testing Laboratories with an annual capacity of analyzing over 52,940 pesticides samples. Two Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories at Chandigarh and Kanpur with annual capacity of 2,000 samples supplement the resources of States/UTs in analysis of pesticides. Besides, the Government has set up a Central Insecticides Laboratory at Faridabad as referral laboratory.