

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4282
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009
DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE USE OF DDT
Ruala Shri C. L.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is assessing the damage caused by the use of `Dichloro Diphenyl Trichloroethane (DDT) to human and animals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to ban the use of DDT; and
- (d) if so, the time by which action is likely to be taken 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) to (d): Government has already taken following steps to restrict the use of DDT, a persistent organic pollutant, in view of the potential risks to human health, animal health and environment :

(i) The use of DDT in agriculture has been withdrawn with effect from 26-05-89.

(ii) The use of DDT is permitted for public health programmes upto 10,000 MTs per annum except in case of any major outbreak or epidemic.

(iii) There is a Mandate Committee on DDT to decide the quantum of DDT to be permitted for use in public health programme for control of Malaria and Kala-azar. The Committee ensures that DDT is used judiciously under the public health programme and its use does not exceed the permissible limit.

(iv) Only M/s. Hindustan Insecticides Limited, a Public Sector Undertaking, has valid registration and license to manufacture DDT for supplying to Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for use under public health programmes.

In view of prevalence of various vector borne diseases in the country, it is not advisable to ban use of DDT for public health purposes.