

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4338

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009

PROMOTION OF NON PESTICIDE FARMING

Bavalia Shri Kuvarjibhai Mohanbhai;Gaddigoudar Shri P.C.

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to encourage alternative non- pesticide approach to farming; and

(b) if so, the biological agents including plant products available at present in the country alongwith the total acreage and crops on which these are likely to be used, State-wise?

**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): Yes, Madam. To increase crop productivity and minimize the the use of hazardous chemical pesticides, Government has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as the main plank of plant protection strategy in overall crop production programme. Under the ambit of IPM programme Government has established 31 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres in 28 States and one Union Territory. The mandate of these Centres is monitoring of pest/ diseases, production, conservation and release of bio-control agents/bio-pesticides, and human resource development by imparting training to agriculture/ horticulture extension officers and farmers at grass root level by organizing Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) in farmers' fields.

(b): Under IPM, Government is encouraging use of biological agents including plant products such as trichoderma, pseudomonas etc. So far 12,111 Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) have been organized in various States where 27,906 million bio-control agents in 91.89 lakh hectare area have been released for control of different pests and diseases. Recommendations on crop-wise use of various bio-control agents have been given in IPM package of practices developed for 77 major crops which have been circulataed to all States/UTs and have been posted on website [www.dacnet.nic.in/ppin](http://www.dacnet.nic.in/ppin) for the use by the extension functionaries and the farmers.