

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:40

ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011

BAN ON ENDOSULFAN

Mohan Shri P. C.;Raghavan Shri M. K.

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

- (a) whether use of endosulfan has been reported to be harmful for human beings, livestock population and agriculture sector;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;
- (c) whether the Government has banned the production, storage and use of endosulfan recently and issued appropriate instructions;
- (d) if so, the present status and the details of the manufacturers who have complied with the instructions;
- (e) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the effect of endosulfan has spread to several parts of the country; and
- (f) if so, the details and the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 40 DUE FOR REPLY ON 2ND AUGUST, 2011.

(a) to (f): Pesticides, including Endosulfan, are toxic and are required to be used as per conditions approved by the Registration Committee constituted under section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968. If used in the manner prescribed, which is printed on the label and the leaflet, pesticides (including Endosulfan) do not cause harm to human beings, livestock or crops in agriculture. Health problems have been reported in Kasargod district of Kerala, and recently by the State Government in Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka, allegedly due to aerial spraying of Endosulfan in cashew plantations.

In writ petition (civil) No. 213 of 2011 `Democratic Youth Federation of India vs Union of India & Ors`, Hon`ble Supreme Court passed an ad-interim order on 13.05.2011 banning production, sale and use of Endosulfan in the country till further orders and appointed a Joint Committee headed by the Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Agriculture Commissioner to conduct a scientific study on the question whether the use of Endosulfan would cause any serious health hazard to human beings and would cause environmental pollution. The Committee was also directed by the Court to suggest alternatives to Endosulfan. Accordingly, the Central Government issued instructions on 14.05.2011 to all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to implement interim order of the Court in toto, which are binding on all manufactures.