

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:27
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2011
LOSS OF FOODGRAINS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the annual loss of foodgrains and major crops caused due to the use of pesticides;
- (b) the reasons therefor alongwith the data of annual loss from 2007 to till date, crop-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the loss of foodgrains and major crops caused due to the use of pesticides?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (c): Use of pesticides is generally recommended by the competent authorities after pest population across Economic Threshold Level (ETL) so as to avoid economic loss. Therefore, there is no loss of foodgrains due to use of pesticides if they are used appropriately as per label and leaflet. There have been reports in the media of crop loss due to spurious pesticides. However, data on year-wise and crop-wise loss due to use of spurious pesticides is not available. Quality of pesticides is monitored by the State Governments through 68 State Pesticides Testing Laboratories (SPTLs) with annual capacity of analyzing 68,110 samples, two Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories and one Central Insecticides Laboratory which undertakes referral analysis