

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5948
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2012
ENDOSULFAN POISONING
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the number of babies born with congenital defects due to endosulfan poisoning in certain parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith facts in this regard;
- (c) the number of such cases reported during the last three years and the current year so far, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has taken/ proposed certain steps to curb the same; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) & (b) :On the directions of National Human Rights Commission the National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad had conducted a study on health effects of Endosulfan in 2002 wherein higher prevalence of congenital malformations in female subjects and abnormalities related to male reproductive systems were observed in study groups.

(c) No such records are maintained in this Department

(d) & (e) : Government of Kerala has initiated relief measures for the endosulfan affected people. Similar relief measures were undertaken by the Government of Karnataka in some areas where endosulfan was aerielly sprayed. No cluster/links are available in remaining part of the country and no such adverse effects have been reported. The State Government of Kerala conducted medical camps and constituted a cell for relief measures for persons identified with health problems in areas where Endosulfan was continuously sprayed. The Ministry of Agriculture, the nodal Ministry to deal with import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution, use etc. of the insecticides under the Insecticides Act, 1968 and the rules made thereunder, has constituted a Central Insecticied Board and Registration Committee to advise the Central and State Governments on matters relating to manufacture, sale, storage, transport and distribution of Insecticides with a view to ensure safety to human beings and animals.