

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6382

ANSWERED ON:15.05.2012

PESTICIDES RESIDUES IN VEGETABLES AND FRUITS

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;Sugumar Shri K.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that certain banned pesticides are used in the production of vegetables and fruits and other agricultural crops;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any scientific study has been conducted to ascertain the level of pesticides content in fruits, vegetables and other crops;
- (d) if so, whether any scientific system is in existence as a regular measure to test the vegetables, fruits and other crops for harmful pesticides and chemicals residues used in farms or storages and to ascertain the time when these items are brought to the market; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Those pesticides which are banned in the country are not to be used in the production of vegetables and fruits and other agricultural crops. Central and State Government functionaries impart extensive training to the farming community in the use of pesticides to ensure that only the approved pesticides are used against target pests on respective crops.

(c) to (e): Government of India is implementing a Central Sector Scheme "Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National Level" under which samples of various food commodities including vegetables and fruits are analyzed for the presence of pesticide residues. Food safety and Standard Authority of India analyzes samples of food items including fruits and vegetables for the quality and safety.