

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1474
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2012
BOLLWORM ATTACK ON PLANTS
Das Shri Khagen

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether bollworm which normally attacks cotton crop has found new hosts in other varieties of plants such as tomato, pigeon pea, chickpea, sorghum, maize, etc., thereby putting farmers at risk;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the efforts the Government has made so far to find out the reasons therefor and to contain bollworm attack on plants?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Bollworm has already been reported in several crops and these are not new hosts. There are three types of Bollworm viz., Pink bollworm, spotted bollworm and American bollworm which are found attacking/ feeding on cotton crops. Out of these, the spotted bollworm and American bollworm are also found attacking tomato, pigeon pea, chickpea, sorghum, maize, etc. Apart from these crops these, pests have also been reported on more than 200 host crops with varying degree of damage to these hosts. The spotted bollworm and American bollworm are the polyphageous pests in nature attacking several field crops. The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach is available and is being implemented in the country to control bollworm attack on plants