

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3282

ANSWERED ON:31.08.2012

ADVERSE HEALTH IMPACT OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Singh Kunwar Rewati Raman

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

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to adverse health impact of use of chemicals and fertilizers including aldrin, DDT, BHC chlordane some of which are banned inside/outside the country;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any study in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details along with the findings thereof;
- (d) whether certain studies reveal that average diet of an Indian contains 0.27 mg. of DDT because of which Indians have one of the highest body DDT concentration; and
- (e) if so, the facts in this regard and the corrective measures taken/proposed by the Government to address the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

- (a): Yes. Keeping in view the adverse health impact, the Government of India had banned the use of DDT for agricultural purpose in 1988 and the use of BHC in 1997.
- (b)& (c): The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has not carried out any study on adverse health impact of these pesticides.
- (d) & (e): The ICMR is not aware of the studies revealing that diet of an Indian contains 0.27mg of DDT. However as per the total Diet Studies conducted at National Institute of Nutrition (ICMR), in Andhra Pradesh, the intake of total DDT was found to be far less than the acceptable daily in takes (ADI) in all the age groups of the population ranging from 0.01-0.03% of ADIs. As per the provisions of Food Safety & Standards Authority of India, food inspectors pick up samples of food from across the country to check their compliance to the various standards laid down by the Authority.