

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:708  
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012  
CROP LOSS DUE TO PEST ATTACKS  
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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Union Government has made any assessment on the loss of crop production due to pest attacks;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the remedial action taken to avert such losses; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a): Working Subgroup on Plant Protection, Planning Commission in 2001 has assessed that on an average 18% of the crop yield is lost due to pests.

(b) & (c): Following remedial action are being taken to minimize/avoid the loss due to pest attack:

1. Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) is implementing a scheme "Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India" since 1991-92 by adopting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as cardinal principle and main plank of plant protection strategy in overall crop production programme. Under the ambit of IPM Programme, the Government of India has established 31 Central IPM Centres in 28 States and one Union Territory.
2. Pest Management strategies including cultural, mechanical, biological and chemical control as the last resort are being popularized under IPM scheme among the farming community.
3. Under the Human Resource Development (HRD) programme of IPM, Farmers Field Schools, long and short duration training programmes are being organised to empower farmers and State extension functionaries about IPM.
4. Pest and disease surveillance and monitoring programmes are undertaken to forewarn likely pest and disease build up in different crops.
5. Farmers are being motivated to adopt seed treatment as a preventive measure for pest management in different crops.