

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1941

ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013

WATER POLLUTION DUE TO PESTICIDES INSECTICIDES WEEDICIDES

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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the excessive use of pesticides/insecticides/weedicides pollute water resources including ground water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) & (b) Excessive use of pesticides/ insecticides/weedicides has the potential to pollute water resources, including ground water. Central Pollution Control Board in association with various state pollution control boards is monitoring water quality across the country including the levels of pesticides. A total of 15 pesticides are monitored at select locations in ground and surface water. Ground water is monitored only in seven States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal at 103 locations.

Monitoring of pesticides in surface water is conducted at 235 locations in ten States which include above seven States and the States of Assam, Karnataka and Punjab.

(c) The Ministry of Agriculture is popularizing the concept of Integrated Pest Management for control of pests, diseases and weeds on various crops which envisages use of non chemical methods including use of biopesticides and judicious use of chemical pesticides. Farmers are advised to use registered pesticides at recommended dosage and observe the required precaution and other instructions as given in label.