

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1969
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2009
LOSS DUE TO PESTICIDES
Singh Shri Bhola;Swaraj Smt. Sushma

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has estimated/ascertained the loss being incurred by the country due to improper use of pesticides;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme to educate the farmers for the purpose; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof indicating the details of stakeholders under the scheme?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): It is estimated that crop losses due to various pests range from 10% to 30% every year depending upon the severity of pest attack. However, no estimate of losses due to improper use of pesticides is available with the Government.

(c) & (d): The Government has established 31 Central Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Centres in 28 States and one Union Territory under the scheme 'Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India' to impart training to farmers in IPM. The overall mandate of these Centres is pest/disease monitoring, production and release of bio-control agents/bio-pesticides, conservation of bio-control agents and Human Resource Development in IPM by imparting training to Agriculture/ Horticulture Extension Officers and farmers at grass root level by organizing Farmers' Field School's (FFSs). Basic aim of FFS is to train the farmers on the latest IPM technology so that they are able to take decisions in pest management operation. Under the scheme so far 12,511 FFSs have been organized where in 52,398 Agriculture Extension Officers and 3,76,614 farmers have been trained throughout the country. IPM packages of practices for pest/disease management in 77 major crops have been developed and circulated to all States/UTs and have been posted on www.dacnet.nic.in/ppin for use by extension functionaries and farmers.