

Title: Need to look into the hardships faced by the local inhabitants around the cashew plantations in Kasargod district of Kerala due to use of Endosulfan pesticide.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Sir, I would like to invite the kind attention of this House to the hardships faced by the local inhabitants around the cashew plantation owned by the State Government in the Kasargod district of Kerala as a result of the uncontrolled use of the deadly poisonous pesticide, Endosulfan by the plantation authorities. Due to this the local people are facing a serious threat to their survival. Most of them are suffering from serious lung and heart diseases. It also causes genetic disorders in newborn babies. The Central Government has agreed to send an investigation team to study this matter when it was brought to the notice by the MPs of Kerala. The Assistant Director General of Indian Council of Agricultural Research was sent to Kasargod to examine this matter. But he has submitted a report justifying the use of Endosulfan without considering the real facts or without a consultation with any of the suffering victims.

I request the Government to look into the matter.