

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:163  
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2005  
CHANGES IN EXISTING FARMING SYSTEM  
Patel Shri Jivabhai Ambalal;Rana Shri Kashi Ram

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to bring about changes in the existing system of farming practices;
- (b) if so, the aspects of farming practices on which attention is to be paid in the new policy;
- (c) whether farmers in certain areas are supplying more than the required quantity of fertilizers and pesticides;
- (d) if so, whether any agency is to be involved in educating the farmers for optimal use of ground water and growth oriented resources so that agriculture may be more viable; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 163 DUE FOR REPLY ON 5TH DECEMBER, 2005.

(a)&(b): The Government is promoting sustainable and resource conserving farming practices like zero tillage, raised bed planting, system of rice intensification, efficient water management, in situ moisture conservation in rainfed areas, integrated nutrient management and integrated pest management besides cultivation of hybrids/improved varieties of crops.

(c): The per hectare consumption of chemical fertilizers in the country is still around 90 kg per hectare which is far less than that of many developed countries. However in many areas, there is imbalance use of fertilizers and micro-nutrients. As regards application of pesticides, its improper use is being reported. Programmes such as Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) is underway to remedy these failings. .

(d)&(e): The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation and its agencies, the State Departments of Agriculture, State Agriculture Universities, Institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Krishi Vigyan Kendras and other institutions are involved in educating the farmers about improved farming practices, including use of INM and IPM practices