

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1589
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2006
USE OF CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES
Shakya Shri Raghuraj Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides is proving very harmful for environment and soil; and
- (b) if so, the alternative methods to be adopted by the Government to curb the indiscriminate use of pesticides and others harmful chemicals and also to save the crops from the catastrophe of pests and insects?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a): The average per hectare consumption of chemical fertilizer nutrients and pesticides (technical grade) are 96.59 kg. / ha. and 0.22 kg / ha. respectively. This level of consumption is not considered as harmful for environment and soil health. However, studies under All India Coordinated Research Project on `Long Term Fertilizer Experiments` over few decades have revealed that imbalanced use of chemical fertilizers without organic manures affect soil health and crop productivity by inducing deficiencies of secondary and micronutrients. Further, if the chemical pesticides are not used judiciously, they may have ill effects such as development of pest resistance to pesticides, pest resurgence, outbreak of secondary pests, pesticide residues in agricultural products, environmental pollution and ecological imbalances.

(b): Government of India has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as the cardinal principle of plant protection in order to minimize the indiscriminate and injudicious use of chemical pesticides.