

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4659

ANSWERED ON:22.05.2006

QUALITY OF IMPORTED WHEAT

Dhanaraju Dr. K.;Mehta Shri Alok Kumar;Shakya Shri Raghuraj Singh;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the wheat imported from Australia by the Union Government contained high level of pesticide residue and was rejected as 'not fit for human consumption';
- (b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the action being taken by the Government to return the said wheat to the exporters; and
- (d) the action taken against the officers held responsible for the lapse?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION ( SHRI SHARAD PAWAR )

(a) & (b): No, Sir. The Central Food Laboratory (CFTRI) Mysore in its initial analysis of a sample, which as informed by the State Trading Corporation was drawn from the surface layer of the imported wheat, immediately on opening of the hatches, had reported residues of one pesticide 'Fenitrothion', to be in excess of the prescribed limit. However, the analysis by the CFTRI of the composite sample taken from the consignment as per the prescribed sampling procedure, found that the presence of the same pesticide 'Fenitrothion', was only 0.01 mg/kg (ppm), as against the prescribed limit of 0.02 mg/kg (ppm), thus falling well within the Maximum Residue Limit provided under the PFA Act 1954.

(c) & (d): Do not arise in view of (a) & (b) above.