

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2376
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009
QUALITY OF PEANUT KERNELS
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether peanut kernels produced in the country have high levels of pesticide residues including aflatoxin;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether consignment of Indian peanut kernels have been rejected by the European Union due to high pesticide residues;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to promote pesticide free peanut production in the country and to improve its export potential?

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): There is no report of peanut kernels produced in the country having high level of pesticide residues including aflatoxin.
- (c)&(d): Rejection of Indian peanut kernels by European Union due to high pesticide residues has not been reported.
- (e): Government of India is promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) through Farmers Field Schools focusing on safe, judicious and need based use of approved pesticides and other pest management practices. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has taken steps for enhancing quality of peanuts including regulation on control of aflatoxins for export of peanuts and peanut products to the European Union.