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Title : Need to ban use of endosulfan pesticide in the country.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): India is the largest user and manufacturer of Endosulfan in the world, using upto 10 million litres of Endosulfan per year. It is deadly pesticide, which had long been banned by many countries, and some international environment agencies have classified it 'highly toxic'. But it is still being used widely in cotton and tea plantations in Kerala, Andhra, Orissa, Maharashtra and Punjab. There are reports of unusual health-related problems due to uncontrolled use of this highly toxic pesticide. A study conducted by the National Institute of Occupational Health on the school children of the plantation area also noticed some congenital abnormalities.

Central Government had constituted a committee under Insecticides Act for review of the registration of Endosulfan. As there were widespread protests against this committee report, the central government constituted another committee and its report is under the consideration of the Union Agricultural Ministry. Endosulfan is maiming and killing scores of people in the country especially in my state Kerala. I request the government to take immediate steps to deregister or ban this pesticide.