

1	2	3	4
Nagaland	24.31	203.00	272.07
Orissa	405.22	404.00	551.61
Panjab	19.15	40.00	76.54
Rajasthan	1678.38	4830.00	4460.98
Sikkim	8.6	26.00	43.28
Tamil Nadu	645.23	1204.00	2390.75
Tripura	181.05	351.00	458.25
Uttar Pradesh	1354.9	2278.00	3562.98
Uttarakhand	80.34	104.00	182.38
West Bengal	968.8	787.00	1542.60
A & N Islands	0	1.00	5.82
D & N Haveli	0	0.00	0.70
Daman & Diu	0	0.00	0.00
Lakshadweep	0	2.00	1.41
Puducherry	0	0.00	0.00
GRAND TOTAL	14344.92	21600	28273.97

Source: Ministry of Rural Development

Ban on Endosulfan

1746. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether pesticide Endosulfan proved to be causing health hazards to humans and animals;
- (b) whether State Governments imposed ban on use of this pesticide;
- (c) if so, the names of the States that have banned Endosulfan;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the pesticide comes under a world-wide ban under the Stockholm Convention;
- (e) if so, whether the use of Endosulfan be banned nation-wide in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (c) Several committees have reviewed effect of Endosulfan on human health and environment in Kasargod district of Kerala against the backdrop of its aerial spraying on cashew plantations. Endosulfan was last reviewed by Dr. C.D. Mayee Committee in 2004 which concluded that its use was not clearly linked to the alleged health problems in Kasargod district of Kerala. Based on these reviews, use of Endosulfan is continued in the country except in Kerala where its use has been kept on hold *vide* notification dated 31.10.2006. State Government of Karnataka has informed that it has decided to ban the use of Endosulfan initially for a period of 60 days as per the provisions of the section 27 (1) of Insecticides Act, 1968.

(d) Persistent Organic Pollutant Review Committee (POPRC) of the Stockholm Convention has recommended listing of Endosulfan in Annex A of the Convention for prohibiting its production and use.

(e) and (f) The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Director General, ICMR to examine the report by National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad on "Health Effects of Endosulfan in Kasargod district" submitted to National Human Rights Commission in 2002. A fresh view on Endosulfan is possible based on inputs from the Committee constituted by ICMR.

Providing of facilities to farmers

†1747. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that huge shortage of agriculture labourers has been felt in many States including Gujarat as a result of which farmers are facing lot of problems;

(b) whether Government is considering to provide the facility of modern equipments in addition to tractors so that the above said problem can be resolved; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by the Government for machanisation of agriculture with modern equipments in addition to tractors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) There are instances in some states including Gujarat, when farmers have faced difficulties in carrying out farm operations on time due to inadequate availability of agricultural labour.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.