

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 27.11.2009
ANSWERED ON**

EFFECT OF USING CHEMICAL ELEMENTS IN FARMING .

927

Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad

Will the Minister of COALCOALAGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether it is a fact that as a result of agricultural revolution in the world in sixties, use of chemical elements in farming increased, environment got affected and the quality of produce decreased;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) whether there is a need to bring second revolution in the agriculture again; and
- (d) if so, the important points which will have to be kept in mind while initiating research to bring in this revolution?

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):Judicious and balanced use of chemical inputs in agriculture does not affect the environment, soil health and quality of produce adversely. However, imbalanced use of fertilizer coupled with low addition of organic matter has resulted in deterioration of soil health particularly in the intensively cultivated areas of Indo-gangetic plains.

(b):The Government of India is promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) involving use of non-chemical methods such as, cultural, mechanical for plant protection and Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) envisaging soil test based application of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with organic sources of plant nutrients for sustainable soil health and productivity.

(c) & (d):The green revolution experienced in India paid rich dividends and the country became self-sufficient in food grains. The 11th Five Year Plan has set a target to accelerate agricultural growth to 4% per annum. The Plan envisages improving efficiency of investment, bringing technologies to the farmers and diversifying agriculture to enhance farmers' income while also protecting food security. The Plan also envisages greater focus on research in strategic areas to evolve cropping systems suited to various agro-climatic zones, and on raising the yield potential in rain-fed areas.