

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 54**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2018

**CROP AND POST HARVEST LOSSES**

54. SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to prevent crop and post harvest losses in Rajasthan and all over the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess crop and post harvest losses in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total number of crops included in the above said study; and
- (d) the annual value of crop and post harvest losses of essential produces at the national level?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a): The crop losses can happen due to biotic and abiotic factors. Biotic factors include pest and disease and other vertebrate pests. Abiotic factors include droughts, floods, extreme weather conditions such as hail storms, extreme temperature etc. To prevent the crop losses due to pest and diseases, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) in the Union Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare regulates the manufacture, storage and use of pesticides through Insecticide act, 1968 and promotes the Integrated Pest Management (IPM). To promote IPM activities established Central Integrated Pest Management Centre's (CIPMCs) in the state of Rajasthan (one each at Jaipur and Sriganganagar). Similarly, all the states including one union territory 34 CIPMCs have been established. The purpose of CIPMCs is to conduct regular pest surveillance & monitoring to assess pest/disease situation and issue advisories for timely pest management measures to prevent crop losses. The CIPMCs also promote IPM approaches with emphasis on biological control and also produce various biocontrol agents and provide to farmers at free of cost. Annually about 760 Farmer's Field Schools (FFS) have been conducted and about 30 farmers are trained in each FFS. In addition, CIPMCs conduct Human Resource Development programmes of two days and five days and Season Long Training (SLT) programmes on major agricultural/horticultural crops throughout the country. Central Insecticides Board & Registration Committee (CIBRC) under Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage (DPPQS) has been established to ensure the availability of safer and effective pesticides by implanting regulatory provisions under Insecticide act, 1968. IPM package of practices have been developed for 89 crops.

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(b) to (d): The crop loss due to abiotic factors is not predictable and varies from crop to crop. Crop losses due to pests and diseases attributed about 30% loss in the potential yield of crop plants.

To prevent the post harvest losses of food grains, a number of warehouses have been established by Food Corporation of India, Central Warehouse Corporations and State Warehouse Corporations in different states. A number of efficient fumigants and insecticides have been registered by DPPQS-CIBRC, DAC&FW in the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare to prevent the losses due to insect pests and rodents.

ICAR-Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering & Technology, Ludhiana has recently conducted a survey based study to assess the post harvest losses during harvesting, collection, threshing, grading/sorting, winnowing / cleaning, drying, packaging, transportation and storage for 46 crops and commodities comprising 5 cereals, 4 pulses, 6 oilseeds, 8 fruits, 8 vegetables, 8 plantation crops and spices, 6 livestock produce and jaggery. Over eating and wastage at consumer level were not parts of this study. The average post harvest losses according to this study are 4.65% – 5.99% for cereals, 6.36% – 8.41% for pulses, 3.08% – 9.96 % for oilseeds, 6.70% – 15.88% for fruits, 4.58% – 12.44% for vegetables, 4.17% – 4.91% for plantation crops, 1.18% – 6.51% for spices, 6.9 % & 2.9% for inland & marine fish, 0.8% for milk and 2.3% & 3.7 % for meat & Poultry.

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