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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 883
ANSWERED ON 7TH FEBRUARY, 2023
"FUNGAL DISEASE IN APPLE CROPS"

883. DR. AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that fungal diseases like scab, premature leaf-fall, blight, powdery mildew, etc. are more dangerous for the apple crop than bacterial and viral diseases; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage apple growers across the country to integrate bio-control methods with chemical sprays to control diseases?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (b) The occurrence of fungal diseases like scab, premature leaf-fall, blight, powdery mildew in apple depend on favourable environmental conditions and presence of pathogen of respective diseases. Fungal diseases are of economic concern as they reduce yield and quality of fruits. In order to increase the production & productivity of apple crop grown in the country and to manage various pest/diseases in apple; Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (DPPQS) through Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) in apple growing States conduct regular surveys and training programs (Farmers Field Schools, 2 Day & 5 Day Human Resource Development programmes) and educate farmers about importance of bio control agents as an alternative to chemical control of pests & diseases of apple. DPPQS in coordination with ICAR-Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture, Srinagar has developed Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Package of Practices for Apple (for Producing Quality Fruits for Export). Various fungicides have been registered for the management of fungal diseases in apple. Also, advisories are issued to the States for the management of the diseases in apple.

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