

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3468**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021

**MICROPLASTICS IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE**

3468. DR. AMAR SINGH :

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

- (a) whether the Government believes that agricultural soils can hold more microplastics than ocean basins;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted studies to analyze the presence of microplastics in agriculture produce;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the sources of microplastics;
- (d) the actions taken by the Government thereon to prevent microplastics from entering agricultural land; and
- (e) the measures introduced by the Government to protect agricultural land from plastic pollution?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (e): So far, no such instance of microplastics in fertilisers and pesticides has come to the knowledge of the government. Further, no such study is conducted on presence of microplastics in Agriculture . However, all fertilisers are generally registered under Fertiliser Control Order (FCO) after thorough assessment of its nutrient status, bio efficacy, permissible limits of impurities and their biodegradability. Similarly, pesticides are registered on pre-defined chemical composition, which is duly verified through pre-registration verification process before granting the registration to the particular pesticide. Till date no pesticide has been registered with micro plastic as its constituent at the Secretariat of CIB&RC. Periodic quality testing of fertilisers and pesticides is done by regulatory agencies at central and state level to ensure that prescribed norms are adhered to.

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