GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RESEARCH

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2173 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH DECEMBER, 2021

ENDOSULFAN VICTIMS OF KASARGOD

2173. SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Endosulfan sprayed in plantations of Kasaragod district has created a great health disaster among the people of Kasaragod, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has fully implemented, the apex court judgment regarding the rehabilitation of Endosulfan victims, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has noted that in order to bring the health condition of the victims to normal, access to medical treatment is expedient, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to organize continuous medical camps with the support of All India Institute of Medical Sciences etc. in Endosulfan affected areas?

ANSWER THE HON'BLE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) to (d): National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH) of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) on the directions of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) had conducted a study in the year 2002 to see the effects of Endosulfan in Kasargod district of Kerala. The study showed significantly higher prevalence of neurobehavioral disorders, congenital malformations in female subjects and abnormalities related to male reproductive system. Subsequently another study conducted in 2010 in the same area showed reproductive morbidity, sexual maturity, congenital anomalies and cancer in younger ages.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture and Farmers welfare has informed that incompliance with direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P. (Civil) No.213 of 2011 filed by Democratic Youth Federation of India vs. UOI & Ors., thereby imposing ban on use of Endosulfan pesticide in India, the Registration Committee (RC) has stopped granting registration for import / manufacture of any technical and formulation product containing Endosulfan insecticide.

HIL (India) Limited (formerly known as M/s Hindustan Insecticides Limited), a public sector undertaking (PSU) under the Department of chemicals and petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has stopped the production of Endosulfan since May, 2011 as per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Government of Kerala has informed that they have provided various benefits such as financial assistance, free ration, treatment, pension, educational scholarship, bank loan write-offs etc. to the Endosulfan affected victims and their children in Kasargod district of Kerala.

Medical camps have been organised in Endosulfan affected areas with the assistance of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences.
