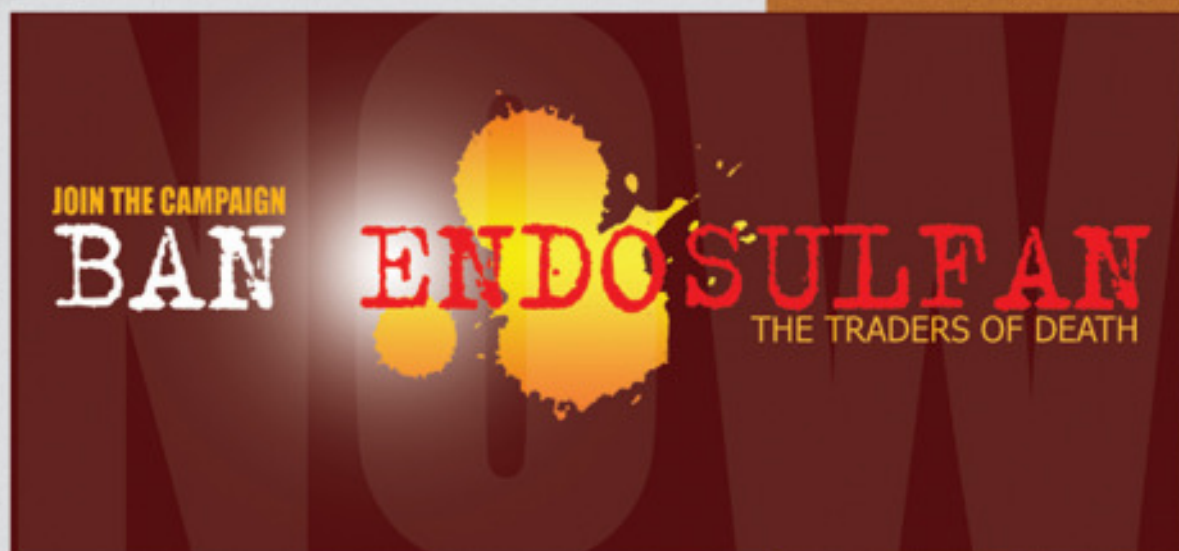


DOSSIER

November 2010 - April 2011



Endosulfan to
Annexe - A

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Introduction

The “Endosulfan poisoning “ at Kasargod was first reported in the media in 1979 by Sri. Shreepadre farm journalist from the village Padre. The Plantation Corporation of Kerala started areal spraying of endosulfan in its cashew plantations in Kasargod district in 1976. The struggle against aerial spraying was started as early as 1980 and the struggle against Endosulfan started in late 1990s. Since then, people in the district have been asking for a ban of endosulfan. Several committees have looked in to the issue and the High Court of Kerala banned the chemical in Kerala in 2003. The Central Government withheld the sale and use in Kerala in 2005. The State Government of Kerala has set up a endosulfan relief and remediation cell and already spend several lakhs to provide relief to the affected and much more need to be done. The people of Kerala and the state government has been working for national ban of Endosulfan. The stand taken by the Government of India against its ban at POPs review committee meeting held in Stockholm in October 2010 triggered state wide protest. State government, political parties, students and civil society came openly against India’s stand. This dossier is a collection of news paper reports from 1st November 2010 to 11 January 2011 related to this. We hope this will give you an idea about Kerala society’s position regarding ban on endosulfan.

Key to the News papers referred in this dossier

English Dailies -	The Hindu-(TH); The New Indian Express-(NIE)
Malayalam Dailies -	Malayala Manorama-(MM); Mathrubumi-(MB); Madyamam-(MD); Mangalam; Deepika

State firm on its demand

Agriculture Minister seeks national ban on Endosulfan

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Minister for Agriculture Mullakkara Ratnakaran has said that the State government will not budge on its demand for a national ban on Endosulfan.

The State government reiterates once again, in the context of Endosulfan, the need for the State government to have the authority to regulate agriculture-related matters, the Minister said in a message to the pan-India Kisan Swaraj Yatra, which entered Kerala on Saturday.

Welcoming the yatra, Mr. Ratnakaran noted that agriculture was a State subject under the Indian Constitution and hence the authority should rest with the State government. "We will oppose

• 'State will oppose all anti-farmer technologies'

• Kisan Swaraj Yatra touring State

all technologies that are anti-farmer and anti-nature."

He also announced that he would join the yatra when it ends at Rajghat in Delhi on December 11, after travelling through 20 States by bus. "All the issues raised by the yatra are issues of concern to the State government also."

The yatra, which started from Sabarmati in Gujarat on October 2, is touring Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode and Wayanad for three days. During these days, it will interact with farmers' organisa-

tions, politicians, teachers, students and other sections of society. Farm visits and cultural programmes are also being held during the yatra. Non-governmental organisations Thanal, Haritha Sena, Jaiva Karshaka Samithi, Save Farmers Campaign and FERNS are hosting the programmes in Kerala, along with various local environmental and farmers' organisations. The Kisan Swaraj Yatra is being coordinated by the Alliance for Sustainable and Holistic Agriculture, a network of organisations and individuals who believe that the way forward for Indian agriculture and farmers is that of sustainable agriculture, that will conserve and improve farmers' livelihood and resources.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ദുഷ്പദം പഠിക്കാൻ ആരംഭം സമിതി

സ്വന്തം ലേഖകൻ

തൃശ്ശൂർ: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഉൾപ്പെടെയുള്ള കീടനാശിനികളുടെ ഉപയോഗം തുടരുന്നതു പുനരവലോകനം ചെയ്യാൻ കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാർ ആരംഭം സമിതിയെ നിയോഗിച്ചു. മൂന്നു മാസത്തിനകം റിപ്പോർട്ട് സമർപ്പിക്കാൻ കൃഷിമന്ത്രി ശരദ് പവാർ സമിതിക്കു നിർദ്ദേശം നൽകി.

കൃഷിശാസ്ത്ര ഗവേഷണ ബ്യൂറോയുടെയും കാർഷിക

ഗവേഷണ കൗൺസിലിന്റെയും മേധാവി ഡോ. സി.ഡി. മായിയറാണ് അധ്യക്ഷൻ. ഡോ. പി.എസ്. ചന്ദ്രകർ (കൺസൽട്ടന്റ്, പ്ലാന്റ് പ്രൊട്ടക്ഷൻ) ഡോ. വൈ.പി. ഗുപ്ത (ഓൾ ഇന്ത്യ ഇൻസ്റ്റിറ്റ്യൂട്ട് ഓഫ് മെഡിക്കൽ സയൻസ്), ഡോ. വൈ.ടി. ഗജ്ബിയെ (അഗ്രിക്കൾച്ചറൽ കെമിക്കൽസ്), ഡോ. പി.കെ. നാഗ് (ഓക്സുപേഷനൽ ഹെൽത്ത്), ഡോ. ആർ.എം. ശുക്ല (പ്ലാന്റ് പ്രൊട്ടക്ഷൻ) തുടങ്ങി വിവിധ മേഖലകളിലെ പ്രഗത്ഭരാണ് സമിതി അംഗങ്ങൾ.

Six member committee to study endosulfan tragedy

New Delhi, Nov.10: Centre has appointed a six member expert committee to reconsider the use of endosulfan and other pesticides. The committee is expected to submit its report within three months. Dr. C D Mayi, the head of Agriculture Research bureau and Agriculture Research Council, is the president of the committee. (Malayalamanorama)

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ദുരിതബാധിതരുടെ കണക്കെടുക്കാൻ മുഖ്യമന്ത്രിയുടെ നിർദ്ദേശം

■ ടി.എസ്. സിദ്ധർത്ഥൻ
തിരുവനന്തപുരം

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ മൂലം മൃതിയടഞ്ഞു വീക്കുന്നവരുടെ കൃത്യമായ കണക്കു ശേഖരിക്കാൻ ആരോഗ്യവകുപ്പിനു മുഖ്യമന്ത്രിയുടെ നിർദ്ദേശം. ആരോഗ്യ, സാമൂഹികക്ഷേമ വകുപ്പുകളുടെ കൈകൾ ഇവരെക്കുറിച്ച് കൃത്യമായ കണക്കോ സമ്പൂർണ്ണ വിവരങ്ങളോ ഇല്ലാത്തതിനാലാണു മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി ഈ നിർദ്ദേശം നൽകിയത്.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഉപയോഗം മൂലം കാൽസൾഫാറ്റ് ആയിക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്നവർ ആരോഗ്യപ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ തോന്നുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിലും ആരോഗ്യവകുപ്പിന്റെ പരാമർശമുള്ള 2060 പേരുടെ വിവരങ്ങൾ മാത്രമാണ്. ഇവരെ പരിപാലിക്കുന്ന ക്ലിനിക്കുകളിലെ പ്രതിമാസ പെൻഷൻ അർഹതയനുസരിച്ച് എല്ലാ സാമൂഹികക്ഷേമ വകുപ്പ് പകുത്തായി വെട്ടിക്കുറച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു.

മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി നിർദ്ദേശിച്ചതനുസരിച്ച് ആ

- പെൻഷൻ അർഹതയനുസരിച്ച് പട്ടിക സാമൂഹികക്ഷേമവകുപ്പ് വെട്ടിച്ചുരുക്കി
- ആരോഗ്യവകുപ്പിന്റെ കൈയിൽ 2060 പേരുടെ വിവരം മാത്രം

രോഗ്യവകുപ്പ് ഇന്നുമുതൽ കാൽസൾഫാറ്റ് പരിപാലനം പഞ്ചായത്തുകളിൽ വിശദമായ സർവ്വേ നടത്തും. ആരോഗ്യവകുപ്പ് അധികൃതർ അടുത്ത പാലം കൈമാറും.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഉപയോഗം മൂലം വിവിധ തിരക്കുകളിലൂടെയും ആരോഗ്യപ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ പടർച്ച ചെയ്യുന്നു. ചികിത്സാ പദ്ധതി അവലംബം ചെയ്യുന്നു. ആരോഗ്യവകുപ്പിന്റെ തത്വത്തിൽ പ്രത്യേകമായും വിളിക്കാൻ മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി നിർദ്ദേശിച്ചത്. 18 നു തിരുവനന്തപുരത്തു ചേരുന്ന യോഗത്തിൽ മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി ടി.എസ്. സിദ്ധർത്ഥൻ, മുനിസിപ്പൽ, ഗ്രാമീണ, വിവിധ വകുപ്പ് ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥർ എന്നിവർ പങ്കെടുക്കും. ഈ യോഗത്തിൽ കാ

ൽസൾഫാറ്റിനെക്കുറിച്ചും എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ബാധിതരുടെ ഇല്ലാത്ത കണക്കും വെളിപ്പെടുത്തും.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ മൂലം കാൽസൾഫാറ്റ് 11 പഞ്ചായത്തുകളിൽ പെട്ടവർക്കാണ് ആരോഗ്യ പ്രശ്നങ്ങളുള്ളത്. ആരോഗ്യവകുപ്പിന്റെ പട്ടികയിലുള്ള അതിവേഗമുദാരണത്തിലായ 25 പേർ മേയ്ക്കുവർത്തിയിൽ രാജ്യ, പട്ടികയിലുള്ള അറുതുറന്നും പേർക്കു സർക്കാർ ധനസഹായം നൽകിയിട്ടുണ്ട്.

രാജ്യ 178 പേരുടെ കുടുംബാംഗങ്ങൾക്ക് 36,000 രൂപ വീതം ധനസഹായം നൽകി. അറുതുറന്നും പേർക്കു പ്രതിമാസ പെൻഷൻ നൽകുന്നുണ്ട്. 400 രൂപമാണു പ്രതിമാസ

പെൻഷൻ തുക. മാനസിക ക്ഷേമമുള്ളവരെയും അവരുടെ ബാധിച്ചവരെയും പരിപാലിക്കുന്ന കുടുംബാംഗത്തിനു പ്രതിമാസ പെൻഷൻ നൽകണമെന്ന് ആരോഗ്യ മുദ്രിതത്തിന്റെ അടിസ്ഥാനത്തിൽ 534 പേരുടെ പട്ടിക കൈമാറിയിരുന്നില്ല. 202 പേരെ മാത്രമാണു സാമൂഹിക ക്ഷേമവകുപ്പ് മെട്രൈമെന്റുമായി. വ്യക്തമായ പ്രതിരോധമുണ്ടായിട്ടു പോയി. ഈ തടപടി നിർദ്ദേശം സാമൂഹികക്ഷേമ വകുപ്പ് തയ്യാറാക്കി.



State for ban on Endosulfan

Government files affidavit

Special Correspondent

KOCHI: The State government informed the Kerala High Court on Wednesday that it had requested the Central government to ban the use of Endosulfan all over the country as its use had caused much misery to the people.

In an affidavit, the State government said the use of Endosulfan had been banned or phased out in all countries, including Brazil and the U.S. At a review meeting of the Stockholm convention in Geneva recently, the use of the pesticide was seriously considered as 'persistent organic pollutant.'

The government said that studies had shown that Endosulfan was extremely toxic in nature.

It informed the Bench of Chief Justice J. Chelameswar and Justice P.R. Ramachandra Menon that the government was seriously considering various options for providing compensation to the victims of Endosulfan in the State.

As the matter involved policy decision, it had to be taken at the highest level after serious discussions.

The affidavit was filed in response to a writ petition filed by T. Asaf Ali, president, Indian Lawyers' Congress, seeking to constitute a special tribunal for identifying Endosulfan victims in Kasaragod

• Considering various options to provide relief to victims

• Writ petition seeks constitution of special tribunals

and awarding compensation to them. He sought a directive to the Central government to ban the spraying of Endosulfan in cashew plantations in Kasaragod.

He said the Plantation Corporation of Kerala and the State government were not making any efforts to identify the victims or their relatives and pay them compensation. It was, therefore, essential to constitute a tribunal on the lines of the special tribunals for Munnar land disputes and the victims of the pollution caused by the Coca-Cola plant at Plachimada.

The affidavit said the government had addressed a letter to the Union Agriculture Ministry seeking early action for solving the problems created by the use of Endosulfan.

The government said that four expert committees had done epidemiological study at Padre village in Kasaragod where aerial spraying of the pesticide was conducted by the corporation. All the committees had recommended stoppage of aerial spraying of Endosulfan.

CM asks details of endosulfan victims

Thiruvananthapuram: The Chief Minister of Kerala asked health department to produce exact number of endosulfan victims in Kasarkode district. According to existing government data there are 2060 victims in the district. But some unofficial data says it exceeds 8000. Therefore CM need updated data. He also called a high level meeting to discuss the issue in Thiruvananthapuram on 18th this month.

Cashew industry seeks Endosulfan ban

Entrepreneurs wary of the impact of the pesticide on export prospects

Ignatius Pereira

KOLLAM: The Kollam-based cashew processing industry has sought a ban on Endosulfan.

Cashew entrepreneurs said the industry did not need raw nuts from plantations that use Endosulfan. The use of such nuts would only serve to harm the industry, especially in the export markets.

They said the global production of raw cashew touched 30 lakh tonnes. India produces about 6 lakh tonnes of raw nuts. The country processes more than 12 lakh tonnes of raw cashew out of which about 6.5 lakh tonnes to 7 lakh tonnes were processed by the Kollam-based industry and the bulk of these were imported.

Compared to this huge requirement, the nuts produced from the plantations in India that apply Endosulfan were a negligible quantity which the industry did not require. For that matter, the industry was averse to process nuts from plantations that used not only Endosulfan but also any other chemical pesticide. The industry sought to ban the use of Endosulfan and other chemical pesticides not only from plantations close to human habitations like Kasaragod but also in plantations that were far away from human dwellings, they said.

Organic products
At a time when the global markets were insisting on organic agro-based products, processing nuts grown

through the use of toxic chemical pesticides would only serve to harm exports from here, they said. In fact, the major quantity of the raw nut requirement for Kollam was met through imports, mainly from African countries.

Certification
When it came to export, a pesticide-free certificate had to accompany the consignment. The industry had to even certify that at no stage of the processing had bleaching powder mixed water been used.

The developed importing countries had the chemical analysis system to detect any chemical presence beyond tolerance level. If any consignment was found to have

chemicals beyond prescribed levels, they were simply rejected and that meant huge loss for the industry, they said.

When this was the outlook of the industry, there was absolutely no need for cashew plantations to use Endosulfan. The use of this pesticide may serve to increase production for farmers but at the cost of human health.

So if cashew plantations were using such pesticides, the clear message from the processing industry was that "if all that is for the cashew industry, it should be stopped for the industry cannot gamble with such a raw material," industrialists said.

See also Page 4

State to compensate endosulfan victims

Express News Service
Kochi, November 10

THERE had been consistent requests from the state for banning the use of endosulfan in the entire nation, and the state Health Department had on May 3, 2010, informed the Union Ministry of Agriculture about the problems created by the use of endosulfan, the state government submitted before the Kerala High Court on Wednesday.

In an affidavit submitted by deputy secretary of the Department of Agriculture M A Francis, the state government said it was seriously considering various options to compensate the endosulfan victims in the state.

The state government filed the affidavit before the Kerala High Court on a petition filed by T Asif Ali seeking a directive to the Centre to ban endosulfan and constitute a tribunal to identify all the



endosulfan victims to pay compensation to all the victims in Kasargod district.

The state government had constituted several committees headed by Abdul Salam, Achuthan and P K Sivaraman and one from the National Institute of Occupational Health, ICMR, Ahmedabad, over the years.

The state further submitted that there is a possibility of using endosulfan after bringing it from the adjacent states where the pesticide has not been banned.

Endosulfan: VS calls officials' meet

Relief measures to be reviewed

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Chief Minister V. S. Achuthanandan will convene a conference of officials on November 18 to review relief measures undertaken by the government for victims of Endosulfan in Kasaragod district.

The conference will review the effectiveness of assistance provided by government to the victims.

Besides welfare pensions for the disabled, the government is providing monthly assistance for bystanders of bed-ridden victims, rice at Rs.2 a kg and medical assistance.

The meet may also look into the possibility of obtaining compensation for the victims through the establishment of a tribunal.

Solatium

The government is currently providing a solatium of Rs.50,000 to the relatives of the dead.

It has, however, provided Rs.5 lakh each to the victims of recent liquor tragedy in Malappuram district.

The case of Endosulfan victims is considered a bigger tragedy. The conference will be attended by officials of the Health Department and the State Council for Science, Technology and Environment.

The Kasaragod Collector and members of the district panchayat are also likely to be invited to the meeting.

The Council is currently preparing a report on the en-



- Meet may consider establishment of a tribunal

- Council report may be delayed further

vironment in the affected villages.

Assessment

For this, it is assessing the Endosulfan residues still present in soil, sediments and human blood and the state of biodiversity. Besides, the economic, social and environmental impact of the pesticide is also being looked into.

Delay in report

Though the work was proposed to be completed by last month, the assessment is getting delayed. The results of analysis of sediments and other samples collected in August are likely to be received only by December. The report may be delayed further.

More reports on Page 4

ഒറ്റക്കെട്ടെന്ന് കൊടിക്കുന്നിൽ

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ യു.ഡി.എഫ്. എം.പിമാർ ഒറ്റക്കെട്ടാണെന്ന് കേരളത്തിൽ നിന്നുള്ള കോൺഗ്രസ് എം.പിമാരുടെ കൺവീനർ കൊടിക്കുന്നിൽ സുരേഷ് അറിയിച്ചു.

ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ വി.എം. സുധീരന്റെ നിലപാടിനോട് യു.ഡി.എഫ് എം.പിമാരിൽ യോജിപ്പുണ്ട്. കേന്ദ്രത്തിന് കെ.പി. തോമസ്സമാധി സംസാരിച്ചുവെന്ന് വിമോചനമില്ലെന്നതിന് അദ്ദേഹം പറഞ്ഞതെന്നും കൊടിക്കുന്നിൽ സുരേഷ് പന്തസമേതരത്തിൽ വ്യക്തമാക്കി. എൻഡോസൾഫിഡ് നിരോധിക്കണമെന്ന് കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിനോട് വശ്യപ്പെടുന്ന നിരവേഗതയിൽ എൽ.ഡി.എഫ് എം.പിമാരും യു.ഡി.എഫ് എം.പിമാരും ഇറക്കുമതി ഒപ്പിടിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

കഴിഞ്ഞ എൽ.ഡി.എഫ്. മരണകാലത്ത് സി.പി.ഐയിലെ കൃഷ്ണൻ കണിയാപറമ്പിൽ കൃഷി മന്ത്രിയായിരുന്നപ്പോഴാണ് കാസർകോട് ജില്ലയിലെ കശുമാവ് തോട്ടത്തിൽ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ തളിച്ചത്. അതിന്റെ ഉത്തരവാദിത്തം എൽ.ഡി.എഫും സി.പി.ഐയും ഏറ്റെടുക്കണമെന്ന് കൊടിക്കുന്നിൽ സുരേഷ് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. കൂട്ടനാട്ടിലെ കൊടക്കുളങ്ങളിൽ നെല്ലിന് തളിക്കുന്ന കീടനാശിനിയും പ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതായി പറഞ്ഞതിൽ അറിവായിട്ടുണ്ട്. അവിടെ കാൻസർ രോഗികളുടെ എണ്ണം വർദ്ധിച്ചു വരികയാണ്. സർക്കാർ അടിയന്തരമായി ഈ കാര്യം പരിശോധിക്കണമെന്ന് അദ്ദേഹം ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു.

UPA MPs from Kerala want ban on endosulfa

Thiruvananthapuram, Nov.13: Kodikunnil Suresh, convener, UPA MPs from Kerala, said that UPA MPs from the state demand ban on endosulfan. Both UPA MPs and non UPA MPs from Kerala have same opinion in the issue, he added. "Studies reveals that pesticides use in paddy creates problems in Kuttanad region in the State. Number of cancer patients are increasing in the region. Govt should consider it immediately" he added.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ¹³⁾
 എതിരെ ശബ്ദിക്കണം:
 ബിനോയ് വിശ്വം

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കാൻ ലോകമെമ്പാടുമുള്ള ശാസ്ത്രജ്ഞന്മാരുടെ ആത്മീയ പ്രസ്ഥാനങ്ങളും ശബ്ദമുയർത്തണമെന്നു മന്ത്രി ബി.ബി.എസ് വിശദമാക്കി.

ഈ വിശ്വ പ്രജ്ഞാന ദ്രസ്തിന്റെ ഗോബന്ധനനീലിപാർവ്വതെ

ന്തിന്മേ' പ്രഭാഷണം നടത്തുകയാ
യിരുന്നു.

ഡോ. മസാതു ഇമാദ്യോ (ജപ്പാൻ) എന്നർത്ഥം പാർലമെന്റ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനായി ചേർന്നു. ഡോ. എ. സുകുമാരൻ നായർ, രമേശ് ചെന്നിത്തല, സ്വാമിജിഗുരുവർമ്മ (പ്രസംഗിച്ചു).

Ban endosulfan: Minister of Forest

Thiruvananthapuram,N0.13: Addressing the global energy parliament organized by Isha Vishwa Vinjan Trust, Binoy Viswam, Minister of Forest, Kerala, asked scientist and spiritual movements across the world to rise their voice for global ban on endosulfan. (Malayalamanorama)

Govt to implement welfare schemes for endosulfan victims



Health Minister P K Sureshbabu inaugurating the 53rd annual state conference of IMA Region (HAFEST 2018), in Kachin on Sunday

Medical College does to have salary more than that of Chief Secretary!

Bleick: "The government doctors in the medical colleges would soon be earning a salary more than the chief secretary of the state. This is according to the UGC guidelines which brings the total salary of a middle-level medical college teacher to a maximum of around \$30,000 which is inclusive of basic pay and grade pay and exclusive of DA and dearness allowance. Even the Director of Medical Education will not be earning that much," Health Minister P.R. Greenwade said on Sunday. She said that it would be further revised when the pay revision for government employees would come on.

ALL DISTRICTS TO HAVE BLOOD SEPARATION UNITS

The minister said that the government was planning to set up a second collection centre in Bratislava, and that the mobile hospital is all the 14 dry-dryers in the state. She said that the government would set up at least one blood separation unit in every district. Also, with the first blood collection units, mobile blood separation units, and mobile blood separation units, it would be easy for a single point collection and processing of blood in the 14-dry-dryers was said to be in a 30-dry-hospital. "In a mobile blood separation unit for the mobile blood collection and unit as that the very well is a district at least once in a month," she said. The government had proposed to introduce a new law for the collection of blood for the purpose of the blood separation unit. It was also proposed to set up a blood separation unit in every district so that they could be on call for any emergency every 15 minutes.

"We plan to call a meeting to decide on the different programmes for the most-physically-challenged. The government is all set to give identity cards to the physically and mentally challenged which

Groenwalski said that the Kootenai-based IMHANS had been alerted 79 or for upgrading it as a 'Centre for Excellence'. Around 79 or had already been received from the Centre for that purpose, she said.

Calling on the IMA to join in the government's fight against communicable and non-communicable diseases, the minister said that doctors should want to fight diseases that prevent their country from developing. India's Green Revolution, which has made the country a world leader in food production, has also produced a lot of bio-medical waste, she said that the new bill proposed at Patna would be such a public-private partnership.

In his special address, Justice V R Krishna Rao stressed the need for additional health services in the country on the lines of Great Britain.

Speaking after being installed as the new state president of the IMA, Dr G V Vignanesan said that a co-operation between the government and the community was the only way to overcome the problems of the provision of private practice in the government sector.

V C Chacko NM, IMA state secretary, Dr J Rajagopalann Nair, Dr Jay George, Dr Shash Nair, Dr A P Mohandas, Dr A S Rana, Dr M R Corrie, Dr V C Sankaranarayanan, Dr S S Nair and Dr Sachidanandan Kandaswamy were

ICMR team to study Endosulfan effects

J. Pothol

NEW DELHI: Even as the Indian union races towards Kerala's 50th anniversary in the Lok Sabha on 11 November, the Ministry of Medical Research (ICMR) constituted a committee to study the pesticide's effects in Kottayam district.

ICMR Director-General Vishwanathan Kanchi will head the 10-member committee. The panel will study various health and social aspects, including water

Agriculture Ministry, for ascertaining the use of Endosulfan during the harvest in Kerala. Demanding an all-India ban on the pesticide, Vengalil said he wanted to add that the then Congress-led United Democratic Front government headed by A.K. Antony had banned Endosulfan in Kerala as early as 2004.

He alleged that the Supreme Court had not done its job adequately.

K.V. Thomsen's stance

Union Minister of State for Agriculture K.V. Thomsen told *The Hindu* that the subject was handled by Union Agriculture Minister Shree P. Venkataswamy Reddy and that he would take up the issue of honing the pesticide with him. He expressed the hope that Mr. P. Venkataswamy Reddy would

Union Minister for Over-

was India's deputy Viceroy. Swi said the ban on Endosulph must continue and that he would inform the Prime Minister about the apprehensions of the people. He said there was no need for lifting the ban as the studies would take some time.

Leader of the Opposition, Gommam Chandu and former

Mr. Chandu pointed out to the Minister that over 400 persons had lost their lives and 4,000 had been affected by the spraying of Endosulph.

Mr. Ramiah agreed to consider another request of Mr. Chandu regarding relaxing the ban on using chemicals for domestic and imported

Minister R. Radhakrishna Pillai, along with a few other leaders, met Union Minister of State for Environment and

Ban if there is robust evidence: Ramesh

Says Endosulfan effects on human beings were mainly due to mode of application

J. Padgett

NEW DELHI: Union Minister of State for Environment and Forests Jyoti Basu has said that if agricultural experts feel that there is robust evidence to show that Endosulfan had caused devastating effects on human beings, then the pesticide should be banned at the national level. Kerala has already banned its use.

The effects of the pesticide on human beings, witnessed in Kaxunged district, were mainly due to the mode of application, i.e. aerial spraying on rubber plantations, the Minister said.



K.V. Thomas says personally he is for a ban on Endosulfan.

It, whereas many countries could not do so as there was 'no cost-effective substitute for Endosulfan'.

Certification

Union Minister of State for Agriculture, K.V. Thomas said that the Centre had not taken a stand on herding the pesticide at the national level, personally he had not been able to do so. He had seen its effects in Karnataka and other parts at Kerala.

Minister, who had been in Koda, clarified that his speech in the State a few days ago, on behalf of Union Agriculture Minister, Shree P. W. Rao was about Euskarania, was in the department, He would, however, continue to press for its ban in his personal capacity and not as a Minister at the highest level, in with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Mr. P. W. Rao.

Minister also said that he has requested the Centre to ban Endosulfan nationwide as its use had caused many military and civilian deaths. He had been informed that it was being phased out in all countries including India.

He said that the use of Endosulfan was a violent agricultural pollutant and extremely toxic.

● BAN ON ENDOSULFAN

Binoy Viswom resents Jairam Ramesh's remarks



Express News Service
Thiruvananthapuram, November 17

FORESTS Minister Binoy Viswom has described the statement made by Union Minister of State for Environment and Forests Jairam Ramesh that the Kerala government was unnecessarily creating a political issue about banning endosulfan in the country "as regrettable".

He told reporters here on Wednesday that the statement by the Union Minister was baseless as the LDF government, since it came to power, has stood for total ban of endosulfan in the country.

"The state government has already banned the use of endosulfan in the state. Even Union Ministers belonging to the Congress from the state and the KPCC leadership are demanding a ban on endosulfan," Viswom said.

Viswom said he would personally tell Jairam Ramesh about the state government's stance on the issue of banning endosulfan.

BJP to step up demand to ban endosulfan

Express News Service
Thiruvananthapuram, November 17

THE Union Government should step up its hide-and-seek game on the endosulfan issue and ban the killer pesticide in the country, BJP state president V Muralidharan has said.

He told reporters during the state leadership meeting of the BJP held here on Wednesday that his party would intensify its demand to put pressure on Union Government to ban use of endosulfan in the country.

"We have planned to stage a protest demonstration in Kasargod on November 22 raising our demand. The Karshaka Morcha members will stage a dharna in front of Parliament on December 2," he said.

Lavallin case

Muralidharan alleged that Union Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs Vayalar Ravi was sabotaging the CBI investigation into the SNC Lavallin case.

"We demand an inquiry into the case after keeping Vayalar Ravi out of the Cabinet. Both the CPM and the Congress are equally to blame for the scandal. The CBI should create an atmosphere conducive to Deepak's deposition in the court on all these matters in the light of his new revelations," Muralidharan said.

The party workers would take out a protest march to the CBI office on December 6, demanding a fair probe into the Lavallin case.

Core issues left out: Minister

State raises concern over Pesticide Management Bill

Special Correspondent

- Centre apprised of State's concerns
- Pesticide to consider suggestions of State panel

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Agriculture Minister Muralidharan has said that the Pesticide Management Bill, introduced in Parliament, did not address the core issues of pesticide misuse in the country and related problems.

In a letter to Union Agriculture Minister Shri. P. Venu, Mr. Muralidharan said Kerala would be able to deal with serious pesticide contamination and related problems only if it got adequate legal and other support.

He noted that studies had shown that Kerala was in a pesticide trap. So, the State had adopted an organic farming policy strategy and action plan that envisaged a total phase-out of pesticides and

chemical-based agriculture in 10 years.

Mr. Muralidharan said the recommendations of the committee set up by the State government to study existing legislation should be considered while enacting the law.

The committee had desired that the State government should give all powers to decide which pesticide to manufacture, use and sell in the State.

It should have the power to take punitive actions and award compensation in the case of violations of the Act. Pesticides not recommended

or approved for sale or use in specific crops or against pests in the State should not be allowed to be brought to the State.

The proposed Bill should have provisions to impose conditions that were locally specific for licensing of sale and use of pesticides.

The practice of manufacturers directly selling to farmers should not be allowed. Farmers were being influenced by pesticide dealers, leading to violation of prescribed recommendations.

Hence, the red and yellow categories of pesticides

should be allowed to be sold only against the prescription of an agricultural officer. Licenses to sell should be given only to those traders and dealers who had a degree in agriculture or vocational education in agriculture and had an understanding of toxicology of pesticides.

The Bill should ban spraying of pesticides by women or children.

Only trained spraying workers following full safety norms should be allowed to do the work.

Regular health monitoring of farming communities, especially those getting exposed to pesticides, should be made mandatory. Proper remedial treatment and compensation should be awarded in cases of poisoning.

എൻഡോസൾഫൻ ദുരിതബാധിതർക്കായി പ്ലാന്റേഷൻ കോർപ്പറേഷൻ പദ്ധതികൾ ആവിഷ്കരിക്കും: മന്ത്രി

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Endosulfan spraying: NHRC notice to three senior officials

Two Union Secretaries, Chief Secretary get notice

J. Balaji

NEW DELHI: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued notice to the secretaries of the Union Environment and Forests Ministry and the Agriculture Ministry and the Chief Secretary of Kerala, returnable in four weeks, on reports that the aerial spraying of Endosulfan in Kasargod district in the State had affected people severely.

Media reports, if true, raised the serious issue of human rights violation of the people, the NHRC observed on Thursday, seeking response from the three senior officials.

The news reports alleged that the aerial spraying of Endosulfan, a pesticide banned in Kerala since 2005, contin-

• The officials have to respond within four weeks.

Recent study finds 2,270 victims of the pesticide

had even now, affecting poor villages of northern Kasargod. The pesticide "attacked" even neonatal babies.

India was the world's largest consumer of Endosulfan at a time when even less advanced countries had banned it long ago, the report said and referred to a random survey conducted jointly by State Health and Agriculture departments last week. As many as 2,270 victims of endosulfan poisoning were found in the six worst-affected villages

in the state.

The NHRC's intervention has come as a shot in the arm for non-governmental organisations, activists and those seeking a ban of Endosulfan at the national level. The Centre is yet to take a firm decision on the subject.

Union Minister of State for Environment and Forests Jairam Ramesh had already gone on record stating that he would recommend a ban on the pesticide if there was robust evidence that the chemical caused severe damage to the people.

He had claimed that the methodology used, aerial spraying, the Endosulfan application could be the reason for the misery of the people.

Plantation Corporation introduces special package for victims

Kozhikode(Kerala), Nov.25: The Ministry of Agriculture of Kerala said Plantation Development Corporation of Kerala will introduce a special package for endosulfan victims. The final decision and design of the package will be made soon, he added. (Mangalam)

HC notice to HIL on endosulfan

Express News Service
Kochi, November 19

THE Kerala High Court on Friday issued a notice to the Hindustan Insecticides Ltd (HIL), the manufacturers of endosulfan.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice J Chelameswar and Justice P R Ramachandra Menon passed the orders while considering a public interest litigation submitted by advocate T Asif Ali seeking compensation for the endosulfan victims in Kasargod district.

"Everyday, something is going on in the endosulfan issue. Recently, there were reports of the National

Human Rights Commission's decision to initiate suo motu proceedings in the endosulfan issue," the court observed.

The petitioner sought a directive to constitute a tribunal to compensate the endosulfan victims. The petitioner, in an application submitted before the court, also sought a directive to stop the studies being conducted in the state by both the Central and the state governments. However, the Bench dismissed the application.

The court, which allowed HIL to implement as an additional respondent in the case, adjourned the hearing.

PCB BANS USE OF ENDOSULFAN

T'Puram, November 19

THE State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) has banned the use of endosulfan in the state following the apprehension of the people that aerial spraying of endosulfan in cashew plantations is causing health problems.

As per the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the SPCB issued notification on Friday stating that the violation of the ban would attract punishment of imprisonment for a maxi-

mum period of six years and fine. The ban comes in the wake of reports that endosulfan is being widely used in areas of the State other than Kasargod and the Board finding presence of endosulfan in the water and sediment samples collected from the river Shirya in Kasargod.

Pollution Control Board issues notification banning the insecticide

THEIR LAUNCHING. Responding to a public outcry over the disastrous consequences of the use of Endosulfan in different parts of the State, particularly in villages of Kasargod district, the Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) has banned the use of the dreaded insecticide across the State.

An official press note issued by the KSPCB Friday evening said that Endosulfan was being banned in the entire State under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1986, in view of the apprehensions of

the people that aerial spraying of Endosulfan in the cashew plantations of Kasargod district had led to health problems identified there and as finding the presence of Endosulfan in the water and sediment collected from the river. PCB from the Shikra river and nearby waterbodies. Violation of the ban would attract imprisonment for a minimum period of six months and fine, the PCB notification said.

amidst the clamour for a Central decision on banning the use of Endosulph, it had been pointed out that the State government was well within its rights to do so. The decision of the PCB shows that this is indeed the

district until a final decision was taken in the matter. The PCR did not make any study results available to the PCB. However, monitoring conducted by the PCB in 2005-20 showed the presence of Endosulfan in the water samples collected from the areas of aerial spraying and hence the decision to ban use of Endosulfan across the

PCB sources told The Hindu that local bodies and Krishi Bhavans would be alerted to the need for preventing use of Endosulfan so that the ban remained effective across the State.

211110 wie

Officials from the State will urge the Centre to ban endosulfan at the meeting to be held in New Delhi on November 23.

FOREST Minister Binoy Viswam on Saturday called for a total ban on endosulfan.

He alleged that the Central Government was being cruel towards the victims of the endosulfan tragedy by delaying a ban on the pesticide.

Addressing a press conference here on Saturday after meeting forest officials and environmentalists, he said that officials from the State would urge the Centre to ban endosulfan at a meeting planned in New Delhi on November 23. He also flayed the appointment of C D

Mayee as head of the committee inquiring into the ill-effects of the pesticide. Mayee had earlier headed a committee which had favourably reported on endosulfan use.

The Minister's call for total ban on endosulfan comes in the wake of a State Pollution Control Board ordering a ban on its use across the State. Earlier, the ban existed only in Kasargod district.

A high-level meeting is also to be convened by Chief Minister V S Achuthanandan here on November 23 to discuss the endosulfan issue in Kasargod. Ministers, district collectors, local-body officials and department officials will attend.

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Forest Minister Bancy Varghese on Saturday said the government would seek a country-wide ban on Endosulfan at a meeting convened by the Centre on November 23 to discuss India's stand at the Geneva and Rotterdam conventions.



"There is every reason to suspect the sincerity of the Central government in imposing a ban on the use of pesticides. The appointment of yet another committee is intended to delay a decision and will only further the interest of the pesticide lobby," he said.

Third population

sions on Saturday afternoon with forest officials, conservation organisations and activists on the stand the State should take at the meeting. The State government had sufficient research material to present its case at the meeting, covering all aspects related to the ill effects of the use of Dieldrin.

In reply to a question on the impact of the ban on Endosulfan on Hindustan Insecticide Ltd., he said the company should consider diversification. The trade unions should also consider the larger impact of the use of pesticide on the general population, the Minister added.

station, the Manager added:

Palakkad, (Kerala), Nov.20: Special squad consisting members from agriculture, revenue and police departments has been set up to detect and stop endosulfan spraying in mango plantations in the district.

Seminar on November 29 to look into grievances

[illegible]

—Clay K. Rasmussen

- **SAFETY:** Close on the heels of the Florida State Pollution Control Board's banning the use of Windshield in the state, styrofoam containers have
- **IT IS BROUGHT FROM**
'Good State in State'
Industry
- **Studies have**
revealed its

[illegible]

എൻഡോസൾഫാനെതിരെ ബോധവൽക്കരണ സെമിനാർ

പാലക്കാട് മുതലാമടയിലെ മാതൃഭൂമിയിൽ നടക്കുന്ന എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഉപയോഗത്തിനെതിരെ മുതലാമട കൃഷിബഹുവൻ, കൃഷി വിജ്ഞാൻകേന്ദ്രം, പട്ടാമ്പി എസ്.വി.എസ്.ആർ.കേന്ദ്രം തുടങ്ങിയ സംസ്ഥാനതലത്തിലെ സെമിനാർ സംഘടിപ്പിച്ചു.



ഗുരുവായൂർ മുതലാമടയിൽ നടന്ന സെമിനാർക്ക് മുതലാമട കൃഷിബഹുവൻ, കൃഷി വിജ്ഞാൻകേന്ദ്രം, പട്ടാമ്പി എസ്.വി.എസ്.ആർ.കേന്ദ്രം തുടങ്ങിയ സംസ്ഥാനതലത്തിലെ സെമിനാർ സംഘടിപ്പിച്ചു. മുതലാമട കൃഷിബഹുവൻ, കൃഷി വിജ്ഞാൻകേന്ദ്രം, പട്ടാമ്പി എസ്.വി.എസ്.ആർ.കേന്ദ്രം തുടങ്ങിയ സംസ്ഥാനതലത്തിലെ സെമിനാർ സംഘടിപ്പിച്ചു.

സെമിനാർ പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾ പാലക്കാട് മുതലാമടയിൽ.

Awarenes class on endosulfan

Palakkad(Kerala),Nov.23: In order to make people aware of possible impact of endosulfan spraying in mango plantations in Muthalamada , a seminar was conducted under the joint auspicious of Krishibhavan, Muthalamada and Krishi Vijna Kendra (KVK) Pattambi. Israel Thomas and Yamini Varma from KVK led classes. (Mathrubhumi)

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ തടയു: കോടിയേരി

24/11/00

കൂട്ടിക്കനം: അന്യസംസ്ഥാനങ്ങളിൽനിന്ന് എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ കേരളത്തിലെത്തുന്നതടയ്ക്കാൻ നടപടികളെടുക്കുമെന്നു മുന്തി കോടിയേരി ബാലകൃഷ്ണൻ. ചെക്ക്പോസ്റ്റുകളിൽ പരിശോധന കർശനമാക്കും. കേ

രളത്തിന്റെ മാതൃക പിന്തുടർന്നു മറ്റു സംസ്ഥാനങ്ങളും എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നു മുന്തി പറഞ്ഞു. കൂട്ടിക്കനം മതിയായ കോളിത്തലിന്റെ പരിശോധന പദ്ധതി ഉൾക്കൊള്ളുന്ന ചെക്ക്പോസ്റ്റ് സ്ഥാപിക്കണമെന്നും മുന്തി പറഞ്ഞു.

Government to tighten endosulfan checking at check posts

Kuttikkanam(Kottayam, Kerala),Nov.24. The Home Minister of Kerala ensures stringent measures to stop endosulfan entering into the state through border check posts from neighboring states. He asked other states to follow Kerala's decision on banning endosulfan.

Package for Endosulfan victims

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Kerala Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan on Tuesday announced a comprehensive package for relief and rehabilitation of victims of the endosulfan pesticide in the State. The package includes higher pension, special education, housing, drinking water supply, rehabilitation, training and employment. Debt relief to the victims' families would also be considered. Mr. Achuthanandan made the announcement after a conference of officials, people's representatives and non-governmental organisations convened to discuss the plight of the victims and review the relief measures taken so far. He told the media that the pension for all patients who could not work would be increased substantially. Debt relief would also be favourably considered. The Cabinet would decide on an immediate moratorium on recovery of loans and further measures. Mr. Achuthanandan said the government had identified the next of kin of 466 persons, whose deaths had been caused by Endosulfan.

No increase in lottery draws: VS

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan said here on Tuesday that Kerala's State lotteries would continue to have only one draw a week. Replying to questions from the media at a press conference, the Chief Minister said there could not be any increase in the number of draws now. "The demand of lottery agents for daily draws is not being considered now," the Chief Minister said. "It is understood that a decision taken earlier this week to increase the number of draws was deferred because of legal concerns."

Action committee for pesticide-free Kasaragod

Staff Reporter

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The Endosulfan Action Committee, an umbrella organisation of 12 organisations working for relief and remediation of Endosulfan victims in Kasaragod district, has urged the government to provide Rs.10 lakh each to relatives of the deceased and to declare the border district as 'pesticide-free'.

At a press conference here on Tuesday, convener of the committee P. V. Sudhir Kumar said that the State government should kick off a pilot project in Kasaragod adopting a new mode of agriculture using bio-pesticides only. The committee members had earlier in the day attended a conference of officials,

people's representatives and non-government organisations convened by the Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan to discuss the plight of victims and review relief measures.

The convener, while welcoming the comprehensive package announced by the Chief Minister, said that victims in Kasaragod were yet to get justice. The organisation's demand - compensation of Rs.10 lakh and Rs.5,000 as family pension to the kin of the deceased - did not get priority in the meeting, he said.

The organisation has come out against the socio-economic and health survey, which was carried out in 11 panchayats in 48 hours. Mr. Sudhir Kumar said there are 8,000-9,000 victims.

The organisation demanded that the leased land held by the Corporation be given to the victims. Issues like detoxification of rivers in the area were raised at the meeting, but were not responded to.



TIME TO ACT: Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan chairs a meeting along with Ministers P.K. Sreemath, Mullaikkara Radhakaran and Benoy Viswam to discuss the plight of Endosulfan victims at the Secretariat on Tuesday. PHOTO: S. MAHINSHA

ENDOSULFAN VICTIMS

High-level meeting fails to address major issues

Express News Service
Thiruvananthapuram, November 23

THE high-level meeting under the chairmanship of Chief Minister V S Achuthanandan on Tuesday failed to give anything to cheer about for the 3,000 endosulfan-affected families of Kasaragod.

There has not been any major decision either on the setting up of a tribunal to look into the issues or on compensation package of ₹10 lakh per deceased person, two long-standing demands of the endosulfan victims.

He, however, announced a special package, the details of which will be worked out on Wednesday. The major outcome of the meeting was the decision to send an all-party delegation from the state to New Delhi. The other positive outcomes include the decision to appoint a deputy collector as in-charge of the Endosulfan Victims Relief and Remediation Cell to strengthen its functions and to hike the pension given to the affected families, the details of which will be worked out later.

The Endosulfan Virudha Samiti convenor P V Sudheerkumar told reporters later that they had demanded a monthly pension of ₹5,000 for the victims, which the government had agreed to consider. The Samiti also demanded a total ban on use of pesticide in Kasaragod district, to which the Agriculture Minister responded that Kasaragod would be made free of at least the highly toxic pesticides of the red and yellow category.



Samiti's concern

The Endosulfan Virudha Samiti convenor P V Sudheerkumar told reporters later that they had demanded a monthly pension of ₹5,000 for the victims, which the government had agreed to consider. The Samiti also demanded a total ban on use of pesticide in Kasaragod district, to which the Agriculture Minister responded that Kasaragod would be made free of at least the highly toxic pesticides of the red and yellow category.

Mooliyar Panchiri Club president K B Muhammed Kunhi said that most of the land under the Plantation Corporation, which have not been surveyed for a long time, was given on lease by the Forests Department. He argued that the land should be taken over by the Forests Department and converted back to natural forest. The fallow land should be handed over to the endosulfan victims, he said.

The Endosulfan Virudha Samiti held the government, the Agriculture Department, agricultural scientists, pesticide manufacturers, PCR and the District Collector jointly responsible for the tragedy. "Aerial spraying of the pesticide continuously for decades was a violation of the Indian Insecticide Act and as the monitoring committees turned a blind eye to it, neither the Central nor the state govern-

Aerial spraying of the pesticide continuously for decades was a violation of the Indian Insecticide Act and the monitoring committees turned a blind eye to it — Muhammed Kunhi

ment can escape from the responsibility," Muhammed Kunhi said.

At the press conference, SP-PAC member Dr Mohan Kumar criticised both the National and State Human Rights Commissions for treating this as a cruel joke. He said that the villagers of Ennakkaje did not want any more studies or surveys.

At the press conference, SP-PAC member Dr Mohan Kumar criticised both the National and State Human Rights Commissions for treating this as a cruel joke. He said that the villagers of Ennakkaje did not want any more studies or surveys.

More pesticides to be withdrawn in Kasaragod

Sale licences of Red and Yellow categories to be revoked

KA Martin

KOCIN: In what is perceived to be the firmest steps yet towards combating synthetic pesticides and their impact on human health, the State government has decided to withdraw licences to sell Red and Yellow categories of pesticides in Kasaragod district from December 2011 to establish a state-of-the-art residue-testing laboratory in Palakkad district (in six to seven months).

Agriculture Minister Maheshwari Pankaj Kumar told the Akshara on Thursday that the order to withdraw licences to sell these most dangerous categories of pesticides would be issued on December 3, the Global No-Pesticides Day.

The Minister said the State government had sought support from the Union govern-

ment for the withdrawal and as in the case of Endosulfan, it would only be the beginning of a move to take similar steps for the rest of Kerala in a phased manner. The order will empower agriculture officers to check the effectiveness of the withdrawal and ensure that the task to create public awareness.

The Agriculture Department has received a proposal to set up a laboratory for testing of vegetables and fruits for pesticide residues in Palakkad district. The laboratory will be in line with the

standards of the College of Agriculture at Vellore in Tamil Nadu.

The Minister said that Kerala has got into a "pesticide trap". The movement came in his letter to Union Agriculture Minister Shri P. Venkatesh Reddy.

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Swaminathan lauds Endosulfan ban

Says no more study required to establish health impact of the pesticide

Staff Reporter

KOCIN: Agriculture scientist M.S. Swaminathan has complimented the Kerala government for its decision to ban the use of Endosulfan across the State.

Speaking on the sidelines of the sixth Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning held on Thursday, Dr. Swaminathan said there was no need for any more commission to study the health impact of the use of Endosulfan. He said other States should analyse the risks and benefits of using the pesticide. "For the individuals of the policy should be the health of the men, women,



and children," he said. Pointing out that the Union government did not want to impose any ban on the use of Endosulfan, he said that the policy should be the health of the men, women,

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The New Indian Express | Saturday, November 27, 2010 | Thiruvananthapuram

Mega health package for Endosulfan victims

6 Rajiv EMS
Thiruvananthapuram, November 26

THE State Health Department has decided to roll out a comprehensive health package in Kasaragod district for helping Endosulfan victims. The package, to be launched on December 15, consists of setting up speciality clinics in 11 panchayats, deployment of more specialist doctors, launching of ambulance services, setting up of operation theatres etc. The major highlight of the package is a clinical registry, which will be made after conducting a series of health camps in all the 11 panchayats, for benefiting the future treatment of the victims. All these were decided at a high-level meeting convened by Health Minister P K Sureshbabu here on Friday.

All facilities will be made available in the 11 panchayats, which have been identified as worst-hit by the use of Endosulfan before December 15. The special health package will be executed by National Rural Health Mission (Arogya Keralam) and Social Security Mission.

It has been decided to appoint more doctors in the specialities of paediatrics, ophthalmology, dermatology, ENT and psychiatry, and in super speciality streams such as neurology, endocrinology and medical oncology. This has been decided as the victims are depending on Kottayam Medical College or the Pantharam Cooperative Medical College for specialist treatment now, as no other hospital in the district has enough facilities.

The Minister ordered to set up speciality poly clinics (in the first phase) in the hospitals of Marayamparambil, Bodadika, Periyar, Panathady, Cheravathur, Cheemeni and Panathur in which a speciality OP will be conducted on each day.

For this, the NHHM will be appointing specialist doctors who will be paid a minimum salary of ₹25,000 each. The salary will be determined on the basis of the experience of doctors. Apart from this, para-medical staff will be recruited based on necessity. It has been decided to conduct at least five health camps in the worst-hit areas in the 11 panchayats so that a clinical registry could be created to record the case history of each victim. The case history will be recorded in a biometric card, which will be distributed to each patient. This will be helpful for future reference and preparing the treatment schedule for each person. The Social Security Mission will provide food for the victims

at the medical camp. Each of the 11 panchayats will be given a mini-ambulance to carry the victims to nearby health centres. These ambulances will have one nursing attendant each. Apart from this, two operation theatres will be set up in Bodadika and Panathady hospitals. More wheelchairs and stretchers will be provided to the hospitals.



UDF DECIDED TO BAN ENDOSULFAN IN 2004

Kasar: Opposition Leader Gommen Chandy has said that the previous UDF Government had already taken a decision to ban the use of Endosulfan in the state. Addressing meepers here on Friday, Chandy said that the decision to ban Endosulfan was taken by a Cabinet meeting held on December 4, 2004. "Imposing another ban now is futile," he said, pointing out that the dreadful pesticide should be banned at national level. "Instead of announcing another ban, the UDF Government should take measures to implement the decision taken by the UDF. Endosulfan is now being illegally transported to Kerala under different names," he said, stressing the need to exert pressure on the Central Government to ban the pesticide in the country. Speaking about the political violence in the district, the Opposition Leader said that the CPM and the BJP were two sides of the same coin as regards perpetrating violence and organising political clashes.

It has also been decided to bring the service of pain and palliative care experts in the speciality poly clinics. A team of experts from NIMHANS will be attending the medical camps. The Health Minister will personally monitor the implementation of the package in Kasaragod for which she will convene a high-level meeting in Kanhangad on December 2.

Pawar to consider State's appeal

Rs.100 crore sought for Endosulfan victims; all-party team to meet Mamohan

J. Rajaji

NEW DELHI: Union Agriculture Minister Shri P. Venkatesh Reddy, on Wednesday, said he would consider the request made by the Kerala government to the Centre for ₹100 crore as an emergency aid for Endosulfan victims.

He asked Kerala Agriculture Minister Maheshwari Pankaj Kumar, who met him here and discussed the damage caused to agriculture and lives by the pesticide Endosulfan, to send a detailed report on the issue.

Mr. Pawar reminded his Minister that Kerala had banned the pesticide in 2004 and it was for the State government to take effective measures for its strict enforcement. There was no effective alternative to Endosulfan and the decision on its ban in other States rested with the respective governments, he said.

Sources said Mr. Pawar also urged the Kerala govern-

ment to encourage organic farming and provided to provide all help from the Centre in this regard.

Minister of State for Agriculture, K.V. Thomas, who had incurred the wrath of politicians and NGOs in Kerala for his controversial remarks in support of Endosulfan during a meeting in Kochi recently, was present during the discussions.

The Kerala government has already announced setting up of a special fund for victims of Endosulfan.

Cabinet decision

Special Correspondent

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The Assembly will meet for two weeks from December 20 mainly for the enactment of legislation. Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan told the media after a Cabinet meeting on Wednesday that the Cabinet had recommended to the

Governor the convening of the Assembly from December 20. It would sit through the week days excluding a recess for Christmas. The session is likely to end on December 30. Business before the House includes replacement of several Ordinances and consideration of new and urgent legislation.

Assembly to meet from December 20

VS deplores move to appoint new panel

Says Centre's expert committees had earlier pointed out risks posed by Endosulfan

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan on Saturday deplored the Union government's move to appoint a new committee to study the effects of Endosulfan on human population, instead of banning the pesticide.

The Chief Minister noted in an official release that India continued to be proponent of the dangerous pesticide while most countries had banned it. "The Union government and others concerned have become dependents and aides of monopolies who manufacture

the pesticide," Mr. Achuthanandan stressed that Endosulfan had caused painful death of 500 persons in 11 panchayats of Kasaragod district. Deaths were continuing. The risks posed by the pesticide had been pointed out in the past by expert committees appointed by the Centre itself.

"However, the Centre is now going in for another study to be headed by an expert who had given 'good certificate' to Endosulfan."

He said the Union government's decision amounted to a challenge and mockery of the affected people, their families and the people of the

• **Reiterates demand for ban on Endosulfan**

• **Plea to aid State in rehabilitation measures**

localities. More than 4,000 persons were suffering from various deformity and other problems in the area.

He noted that Endosulfan had not only affected the people of Kasaragod district but also the people in some parts of Karnataka and the Idukki, Palakkad and Wayanad districts of Kerala. Hence, the

manufacture and sale of the pesticide should be banned urgently. Precautionary action should be taken to prevent its marketing under other names.

The Chief Minister demanded that the Centre should assist the State in implementing projects for the treatment, welfare and rehabilitation of the victims. A sum of Rs.100 crore should be sanctioned for a comprehensive rehabilitation package.

Inquiry ordered

Forest Minister Benoy Viswam has ordered an inquiry into reports of heavy usage of pesticides on the Mooply es-

tate of Harrison's Malayalam Ltd. (The government had earlier issued notice for the takeover of the estate on grounds of violation of lease conditions and the company had challenged the notice before court.) An official release noted that the leaching of the pesticide into water flowing down from the estate and water bodies in the nearby areas would cause a serious situation. It could affect the water bodies, the people and biodiversity. Hence, the order of the Minister for urgent investigation into the reports.

IT may offer lifeline for victims of Endosulfan

Steps to spread use of IT among all sections of society: VS



IT-ENABLED SERVICES: Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan inaugurating an activity laboratory for autistic children set up by the Kerala State IT Mission in the city on Friday. — PHOTO: C. RAJEEV KUNDA

A Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan said here on Friday that the government was exploring the possibility of using IT-enabled services to provide a livelihood for the victims of Endosulfan suffering from physical disabilities.

He was speaking after inaugurating an activity laboratory for autistic children and an audio library for the visually challenged set up at the Insight Centre, a project of the Kerala State IT Mission (KSITM) in association with SPACE Society for Promotion of Alternative Computing and Employment. The function was organised in connection with International Day for Disabled Persons.

Mr. Achuthanandan said the government was working on various projects to spread the use of IT among all sections of society.

Inaugurating a vocational centre set up to provide gainful employment for visually challenged students, Aja Kumar, Principal Secretary, IT, said the department would also launch initiatives to help them to use it for their benefit.

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G. Prabhakaran

PALAKKAD: M.N. Kutty, former FAO and United Nations (U.N.) expert on aquaculture, has called for integrated pest management (IPM) to overcome the threat posed to biodiversity and the ecosystem by the use of toxic pesticides.

Talking to *The Hindu* here on Friday on the use of toxic pesticides in mango orchards at Muthalamada and agriculture farms in Palakkad, Dr. Kutty said "there is urgent need for harmless biological weapons to combat farm pests because when toxic chemicals are used, it not only affects the target pests like insects and mites but non-target animals too, including human beings, directly and indirectly."

"The death of a calf allegedly caused due to consumption of water contaminated with pesticides that were used to control insect pests in flowering mango trees in Muthalamada and the death of butterflies caused by exposure to pesticides-contaminated atmosphere in the Nelliampathi Hills have rightly stirred the attention of environmentalists and the media," he said.

"We should avoid all chemical pesticides and go in for biological control of pests. But, this needs dedicated and time-consuming research to locate biological-control organism and standardise methodologies." Relying on total biological regulation of pest attacks should be one of the ultimate objectives of eliminating harmful chemical pesticides. The harmful effects of indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides can be avoided by going in for IPM, a component of holistic agriculture or organic farming, he said.

Immediate method

Asked about the immediate method to be employed by farmers to save their crops from pest attacks, Dr. Kutty said "as long as such environmentally-healthy and fool-proof methods are not available, we may have to adopt the best available management technology; less harmful chemicals can be used, restricting application on the affected organism and reducing the area and time of exposure through integrated pest management."

This is in consideration of not only protecting the target crop, but also other

crops — plant, animal, bird, fish — in the watershed ecosystem. It stems from indeed a wider understanding of a highly complex system through study of the different components of the total system individually and also in concert and evolving methodologies, which could lead to an optimal socio-economically and environmentally sustained production from the eco-system."

On the demand to ban harmful chemical pesticides in the State, Dr. Kutty said some very strong measures against its use have to be taken in Kerala and also in the entire country. Surely, there will be some fears and anxiety that the move might cause some dents in the highly sensitive agri-food production system, but anticipated losses would be minuscule when compared to the human tragedy and not so visible degradation of our environment and losses of our tropical eco-system, especially their biodiversity.

He said the perils of toxic pesticides use has been recognised by more countries and India should fall in line with the global verdict soon and save our environment.

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

THE HINDU • SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2010

Adopt integrated pest management: expert

Endosulfan: officials to face action

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan said here on Sunday that the State government would initiate action against officials of the Agriculture Department and Plantation Corporation of Kerala Ltd. who endorsed the use of Endosulfan in Kasaragod district.

Speaking after inaugurating Karshaka Bhavanam at Anayara here, he said a section of agricultural scientists who certified the use of the deadly pesticide were also responsible for the human tragedy caused by exposure to Endosulfan.

The Chief Minister said the government had adopted a slew of measures to help the victims of Endosulfan. "We have banned the use of such



V.S. Achuthanandan says a section of scientists are also responsible for Endosulfan tragedy.

pesticides in Kasaragod and efforts are on to promote organic farming," he said.

Highlighting the need to modernise the agricultural sector, he said, "It is high time

we took steps to reduce expenditure, increase yield and reduce the human labour component in farming. It is also important for farmers to be trained in dairy and poultry farming for an integrated approach."

In his presidential address, Agriculture Minister Mullakara Ratnakaran said Karshaka Bhavanam would provide affordable and quality accommodation for the farmers visiting the capital city. The Minister revealed plans to equip farmers for direct access to markets.

Law and Public Works Minister M. Vijayakumar, Ports and Youth Affairs Minister V. Surendran Pillai, Mayor K. Chandrika, Deputy Mayor G. Happykumar, Additional Chief Secretary K. Jayakumar and Director of

Agriculture G. Surendran were among those present at the inaugural function.

Built inside the World Market campus at Anayara, 'Karshaka Bhavanam' will house the State Agricultural Management and Extension Training Institute (SAMETI). The eco-friendly building was constructed by COSTFORD (Centre of Science and Technology for Rural Development) with facilities such as a biogas plant and a rainwater-harvesting system. The 26-room building can accommodate up to 50 farmers. SAMETI was established as part of the ATMA (Agriculture Technology Management Agency) project of the State government.

NHRC chief to visit Endosulfan-hit areas

KOZHIKODE: National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) chairperson K.G. Balakrishnan on Thursday said he would visit the areas affected by the spraying of Endosulfan in Kasaragod district on Saturday.

Talking to mediapersons, Mr. Balakrishnan, who was here en route to Kasaragod, said the purpose of his visit was to check if the victims had received adequate compensation.

When asked whether there was human rights violation in the spraying of the pesticide, he said, "that is why I have come."

The question of banning Endosulfan "does not come under the NHRC," the former Chief Justice of India said. On November 18 last, the NHRC, taking suo motu cognizance of the matter on the basis of a media report that alleged aerial spraying of Endosulfan was continuing in the State, had sought a reply from the Centre and the State government.

The State government had recently announced a relief package to the families suffering from the after-effects of the use of the pesticide in cashew plantations in Kasaragod. — PTI

Situation in Endosulfan-hit areas worrying: NHRC

Express News Service
Kasaragod, December 18

NATIONAL Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Chairman Justice K G Balakrishnan said here on Saturday that the NHRC would take a serious note of the Endosulfan issue in the district.

Addressing an interactive session with the victims and their parents from several villages in the district, which are suspected to have been affected by the aerial spraying of Endosulfan, Justice K G Balakrishnan said the State and Central governments should take effective measures for the treatment of the victims.

Describing the situation in several parts of the district as grave, the NHRC chairman said that all the treatment facilities announced by the government should be made available to the deserving victims.

Justice K G Balakrishnan said that the NHRC would recommend the Union Government to set up super-specialty hospitals, palliative



National Human Rights Commission chairman Justice K G Balakrishnan interacting with the parents of an Endosulfan victim at the Collectorate Conference Hall in Kasaragod on Saturday

care centres and special care homes in the affected areas.

He said the parents of several vic-

tims are in debt-trap after exhausting all their resources for the treatment of their children.

He said the five members of the NHRC would again visit the area to find a solution to the problem and it would take action against the denial of human rights on the issue based on the limited powers of the NHRC.

Justice K G Balakrishnan said the NHRC would apprise the Prime Minister and the Union Minister for Agriculture as well as the Health Minister on the plight of the victims.

Stating that the NHRC was not an organisation conducting scientific studies on the issue, he said it would examine the human rights violation resulting from the aerial spraying of Endosulfan in the villages.

P Karunkaran MP, C H Kunhambar MLA, district panchayat president F P Shamala Devi, District Collector Anand Singh, DMO Dr Jose D'Cruse and members of other various organisations attended the interface programme.

Later, the NHRC Chairman visited the villages of Padre, Enmakaje and Bellur, which are reportedly affected by the spraying of Endosulfan.

15/12/10 TH New chairman for Endosulfan panel

J. Balaji

NEW DELHI: The Union Agriculture Ministry will replace the chairman of the committee appointed to study the effects of Endosulfan on people in Kasaragod and Idukki districts.

The present head of the six-member committee, C.D. Mayee, who is the Chairman of the Agricultural Scientist Recruitment Board, will be replaced by a representative from the Union Health Ministry. Kerala's political leaders, activists and non-governmental organisations had been gunning for Mr. Mayee's replacement as he had earlier in 2005 given a report favouring the use of Endosulfan.

Union Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar is said to

have promised to replace Mr. Mayee when a delegation of the Kerala State committee of the Nationalist Congress Party, led by its president, A.C. Shanmukhadas, called on him here on Tuesday. "Order regarding appointment of the new chairman will be issued as early as possible," Mr. Das said quoting Mr. Pawar.

NCP secretary T.P. Peetambar said the Minister promised that the committee's main priority would be to look into the health hazards posed by the pesticide.

Earlier, the delegation, in a memorandum to Mr. Pawar, said various studies had conclusively proven that Endosulfan was a highly hazardous pesticide. The delegates wanted the Centre, particularly the Environment Ministry, to ban it.

24/12/10 TH Central package sought for victims of Endosulfan

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The State government has sought a Rs.100-crore Central package for rehabilitation of the Endosulfan victims of Kasaragod district, Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan told the Assembly on Thursday.

Responding to a call attention motion from C.H. Kunhambu (CPI-M), the Chief Minister said his government had done everything within its power to help the Endosulfan victims and their families and could provide relief to them only with Central support. However, the Central stand so far was not favourable to the State or the Endosulfan victims, he said.

State expenses

Mr. Achuthanandan pointed

• **State has sought Rs.100 crore for rehabilitation**

• **VS flays Central decision for another study**

out that the State government was now bearing the entire treatment expenditure of the Endosulfan victims and that each victim was being given Rs.2,000 a month and their dependent families Rs.1,000 each and free ration. Facilities had also been created in the 11 affected panchayats for providing timely medical and palliative care.

The Chief Minister came down heavily on the Centre's decision to commission another study on the impact of

Endosulfan use and pointed out that the need of the hour was not another study, but assistance and support for the victims and a total ban on Endosulfan use in the entire country. The State government, he said, had already communicated to the Centre its protest against the decision for another study.

Grave situation

Earlier, Mr. Kunhambu said the situation in the affected panchayats was still very serious with several persons succumbing to the effects of the pesticide. The government should immediately seek a total ban on the use of the pesticide across the country and set up a tribunal to assess the damages and pay compensation to the Endosulfan victims, he said.

Endosulfan: Centre files affidavit

To take a fresh view on the pesticide

Special Correspondent

KOCHI: The Central government will take a fresh view on the use of Endosulfan after getting inputs from a committee constituted by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to review the health effects of Endosulfan use, according to an affidavit filed by the Central government before the Kerala High Court.

In an affidavit filed in response to a writ petition seeking to set up a special tribunal for Endosulfan victims, Kisan Dethlor, Plant Protection Officer in the Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage under the Union Ministry of Agriculture, said as a matter of abundant precaution, the use of Endosulfan in the State had been kept on hold through a government of India notification dated October 31, 2006, till the result of an epidemiological study to pinpoint the factors responsible for the health problems in the village Padre in Kasargod became

• To get inputs from panel constituted by ICMR

• No permission for aerial spraying since 1992

available. The affidavit noted that no permission was granted by the Central Insecticides Board (CIB) for aerial spraying of Endosulfan since December 1992. The affidavit also pointed out that the Central government's ban on the use of Endosulfan would continue till the committee gave its report. Therefore, the question of granting any permission for aerial spraying of Endosulfan did not arise.

Toxic commodity

The affidavit submitted that all pesticides were toxic and, therefore, their import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution and use were regulated under the Insecticide Act and Rules. In fact, a Registration

Committee (RC) was constituted which registered pesticides meant for import and manufacture in the country. The RC registered the pesticide only after satisfying itself with the efficacy of the pesticides and their safety for human beings, animals and environment.

Besides, the government kept on reviewing information on insecticides by appointing expert committees by the Registration Committee.

The writ petition was filed by T. Anand, president, Indian Lawyers' Congress, seeking to constitute a special tribunal for identifying Endosulfan victims in Kasargod and awarding compensation to them.

The petition also sought a directive to the State Pollution Control Board to discharge its statutory duties and prevent all sorts of pollution due to the use of Endosulfan in and around the estates of the Plantation Corporation of Kerala in Kasargod.

State firm on its demand

Agriculture Minister seeks national ban on Endosulfan

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Minister for Agriculture Mullaikkara Ratnakaran has said that the State government will not budge on its demand for a national ban on Endosulfan.

The State government reiterates once again, in the context of Endosulfan, the need for the State government to have the authority to regulate agriculture-related matters, the Minister said in a message to the pan-India Kisan Swaraj Yatra, which entered Kerala on Saturday.

Welcoming the yatra, Mr. Ratnakaran noted that agriculture was a State subject under the Indian Constitution and hence the authority should rest with the State government. "We will oppose

• 'State will oppose all anti-farmer technologies'

• Kisan Swaraj Yatra touring State

all technologies that are anti-farmer and anti-nature."

He also announced that he would join the yatra when it ends at Rajghat in Delhi on December 11, after travelling through 20 States by bus. "All the issues raised by the yatra are issues of concern to the State government also."

The yatra, which started from Sabarmati in Gujarat on October 2, is touring Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode and Wayanad for three days. During these days, it will interact with farmers' organisations, politicians, teachers, students and other sections of society. Farm visits and cultural programmes are also being held during the yatra. Non-governmental organisations Thanal, Haritha Sena, Jaiva Karshaka Samithi, Save Farmers Campaign and FERNs are hosting the programmes in Kerala, along with various local environmental and farmers' organisations. The Kisan Swaraj Yatra is being coordinated by the Alliance for Sustainable and Holistic Agriculture, a network of organisations and individuals who believe that the way forward for Indian agriculture and farmers is that of sustainable agriculture, that will conserve and improve farmers' livelihood and resources.

2,836 Endosulfan victims identified

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan said here on Wednesday that

2,836 Endosulfan victims had been identified in 11 panchayats in Kasargod district.

Replying to a submission by K. Kunhiraman in the As-

sembly, he said the government was providing all possible assistance to the victims and their families, including monthly pension.

He offered to consider any additional application for assistance if Endosulfan victims were identified in the other panchayats.

Novel initiative

Athul Lal A G | ENS
T'puram, January 6

AGRICULTURE officers in the state would soon don the role of physicians. In a bid to curtail the indiscriminate use of deadly pesticides, the state government is all set to introduce a new concept whereby farmers will require a prescription from agriculture officers to buy pesticides from retail depots.

According to sources in the Agriculture Department, this proposal comes in the wake of serious health hazards reported in Kasargod due to the indiscriminate use of the deadly pesticide Endosulfan in cashew plan-

tations. Besides, the ill-effects of using highly toxic pesticides are also being reported from various parts of the state.

Officials said the new system would encourage judicious use of pesticides. "Just like buying medicines with prescription from a doctor, the farmer has to obtain a prescription from the agriculture officer. Without it, farmers will not be given pesticides. The retail depots should also keep a



ILLU: P.K. JOB

copy of the prescription," an official said. Officials pointed out that lack of regulations has led to the indiscriminate use of deadly chemicals. Besides, certain companies were also supplying huge quantities of pesticides directly to farmers.

At the same time, strict measures would be taken to curtail the misuse of the system. "There are chances of the system being misused by

pesticide companies by canvassing officers and by offering freebies to them. To check such malpractices, there will be regular inspections and prompt action will be taken against erring depots," the official said.

Moreover, the state government was planning a massive campaign against the use of poisonous chemicals and to promote organic farming.

"At present, there is widespread protest against use of pesticides and insecticides. Everywhere, there is a call for organic farming."

"Only the pesticide companies are opposing these regulations," the official added.

Chandy: adopt families of Endosulfan victims

Staff Reporter

KASARAGOD: Leader of the Opposition Oommen Chandy on Monday asked the State government to adopt the families of Endosulfan victims who are leading a prolonged life of misery and trauma, saying that providing mere medical facilities to the affected was not sufficient.

"The State government should, in fact, adopt the entire victims of the Endosulfan spraying in the cashew estates of the Plantation Corporation of Kerala," Mr. Chandy.

The Opposition leader, who visited a few family members of the worst affected, Kankalaje, Badiyadikkal, Vadyadri and Pallathadikka, urged the government to provide job to the kin of the affected to help them sustain

their families.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Chandy visited the dwelling places of Chengara agitators who were allotted land near Periyar and urged the government to take steps to implement the rehabilitation package offered to the settlers saying the present package was quite inadequate.

The Left Democratic Front government, it seemed, had failed to effectively implement the rehabilitation package, Mr. Chandy told reporters.

The late-site land allotted to the settlers is not worthy of any kind of cultivation and the settler families numbering about 260 should be accommodated in a better place to also set a decent living, Mr. Chandy said on seeing the plight of the few settlers.

Government may ban hazardous pesticides

Initially, the ban may apply to sensitive and biodiversity-rich areas

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The government is considering a ban on red (extremely toxic) and yellow (highly toxic) categories of pesticides in phases against the background of mounting protests against pesticides in the State, especially in Kasargod and Idukki districts.

Initially, the ban will apply to sensitive and biodiversity-rich areas and areas where pesticide use is intense. However, there would not be an immediate ban on pesticide use in cardamom and tea plantations. Prescription by an agriculture officer might be made mandatory for sale of pesticides.

In Idukki district, ban on

use of red and yellow categories of pesticides is likely to come into effect for food crops such as vegetables, banana and paddy at Devikulam, Idukki, Thodupuzha, Elamadaan and Adimali. Agriculture Minister Muthalala Ratnakaram has asked the Director of Agriculture to prepare detailed proposals in this regard.

The government has already decided to withdraw licences to sell red and yellow categories of pesticides in Kasargod district.

The Drugs Controller of Idukki recently took action against medical shops for selling steroids and other allopathic medicines for agriculture use. Medical shops have been warned against

selling medicines in large quantities.

Rules permit only sale of limited number of pills of certain steroids and that too only against prescription. Steroids and other medicines are used in cardamom plantations to stimulate growth.

Meanwhile, protests are growing from within Idukki district against excessive use of pesticides in plantations and vegetable gardens.

Trade unions, which were reluctant to talk about pesticides and their impact on the workers, have started coming out against pesticides.

K.A. Mami, president of the Malanadu Plantation Employees Union (CITU), said the union had decided to oppose use of Endosulfan which was coming under false labels from Tamil Nadu.

The union considered the use of monocrotophos, and

Agriculture Director asked to prepare proposals

Prescription of agriculture officer to be mandatory

phosphates as risky and wanted to discourage their use.

Cancers and several other afflictions, which could be related to use of pesticides had become common in Idukki district. Many had not realised the gravity of the situation.

Hence, the union planned to create awareness among workers. Ulcers, asthma, kidney diseases and gynaecological problems were seen to be increasing among workers over the years.

Often, the workers were not using protective gear such

as special clothing, field boots and gloves. Estate owners usually did not provide them. Even if the owners provided them, the workers were reluctant to use them, he said.

Campaigners like C.J. Joseph of Kattappana call for restrictions on use of pesticides. There was also need for better treatment facilities in the district, he said.

Students of nearly 30 schools organised a human chain from Nedumkandam to Harakkulam on Wednesday against the use of the banned pesticide Endosulfan.

Swaran Samakalika Velli held an exhibition of 100 cartoons by B. Balachandran on the theme of Endosulfan at 10 locations in the district. Churches Auxiliary for Social Action organised a march against Endosulfan at Cheruthol in the district last week.

മാരകരോഗങ്ങളുണ്ടാക്കുന്ന കീടനാശിനികൾ നിരോധിക്കും -മന്ത്രി

പാവറട്ടി(തൃശ്ശൂർ): കാർഷിക പ്രാധാന്യ മാരകരോഗങ്ങൾ വച്ചു തുറന്ന കീടനാശിനികൾ നിരോധിക്കുമെന്ന് കൃഷിമന്ത്രി പാവറട്ടി പറഞ്ഞു. നാഷണൽ ഗ്രീൻ കമ്മീഷൻ റിപ്പോർട്ട് പ്രകാരം 2011-12 വർഷത്തിൽ ഏകദേശം 100 കോടി രൂപയുടെ കീടനാശിനികൾ ഉപയോഗിച്ചിരുന്നു. ഇതിൽ 10 ശതമാനം മാത്രമാണ് അനുവദിക്കാവുന്നതെന്ന് കമ്മീഷൻ പറഞ്ഞു.

മുൻകാലത്തേക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ കീടനാശിനികൾ ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നതിന് കർഷകർക്ക് അറിവ് നൽകേണ്ടതുണ്ട്. ഇത്തരം കാര്യങ്ങൾ ആലോചിക്കും. നാഷണൽ ഗ്രീൻ കമ്മീഷന്റെ റിപ്പോർട്ട് പ്രകാരം 2011-12 വർഷത്തിൽ ഏകദേശം 100 കോടി രൂപയുടെ കീടനാശിനികൾ ഉപയോഗിച്ചിരുന്നു. ഇതിൽ 10 ശതമാനം മാത്രമാണ് അനുവദിക്കാവുന്നതെന്ന് കമ്മീഷൻ പറഞ്ഞു.

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മുൻകാലത്തേക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ കീടനാശിനികൾ ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നതിന് കർഷകർക്ക് അറിവ് നൽകേണ്ടതുണ്ട്. ഇത്തരം കാര്യങ്ങൾ ആലോചിക്കും. നാഷണൽ ഗ്രീൻ കമ്മീഷന്റെ റിപ്പോർട്ട് പ്രകാരം 2011-12 വർഷത്തിൽ ഏകദേശം 100 കോടി രൂപയുടെ കീടനാശിനികൾ ഉപയോഗിച്ചിരുന്നു. ഇതിൽ 10 ശതമാനം മാത്രമാണ് അനുവദിക്കാവുന്നതെന്ന് കമ്മീഷൻ പറഞ്ഞു.

മുൻകാലത്തേക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ കീടനാശിനികൾ ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നതിന് കർഷകർക്ക് അറിവ് നൽകേണ്ടതുണ്ട്. ഇത്തരം കാര്യങ്ങൾ ആലോചിക്കും. നാഷണൽ ഗ്രീൻ കമ്മീഷന്റെ റിപ്പോർട്ട് പ്രകാരം 2011-12 വർഷത്തിൽ ഏകദേശം 100 കോടി രൂപയുടെ കീടനാശിനികൾ ഉപയോഗിച്ചിരുന്നു. ഇതിൽ 10 ശതമാനം മാത്രമാണ് അനുവദിക്കാവുന്നതെന്ന് കമ്മീഷൻ പറഞ്ഞു.

മുൻകാലത്തേക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ കീടനാശിനികൾ ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നതിന് കർഷകർക്ക് അറിവ് നൽകേണ്ടതുണ്ട്. ഇത്തരം കാര്യങ്ങൾ ആലോചിക്കും. നാഷണൽ ഗ്രീൻ കമ്മീഷന്റെ റിപ്പോർട്ട് പ്രകാരം 2011-12 വർഷത്തിൽ ഏകദേശം 100 കോടി രൂപയുടെ കീടനാശിനികൾ ഉപയോഗിച്ചിരുന്നു. ഇതിൽ 10 ശതമാനം മാത്രമാണ് അനുവദിക്കാവുന്നതെന്ന് കമ്മീഷൻ പറഞ്ഞു.

State to ban hazardous pesticides.

Pavaratty(Thrissur): Minister of Agriculture, Government of Kerala, said that the state government will take steps to ban all the hazardous pesticides.

Chandy: adopt families of Endosulfan victims

Staff Reporter

KASARAGOD: Leader of the Opposition Oommen Chandy on Monday asked the State government to adopt the families of Endosulfan victims who are leading a prolonged life of misery and trauma, saying that providing mere medical facilities to the affected was not sufficient.

"The State government should, in fact, adopt the entire victims of the Endosulfan spraying in the cashew estates of the Plantation Corporation of Kerala," Mr. Chandy.

The Opposition leader, who visited a few family members of the worst affected, Kankalaje, Badiyadikkal, Vadyadri and Pallathadikka, urged the government to provide job to the kin of the affected to help them sustain

their families.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Chandy visited the dwelling places of Chengara agitators who were allotted land near Periyar and urged the government to take steps to implement the rehabilitation package offered to the settlers saying the present package was quite inadequate.

The Left Democratic Front government, it seemed, had failed to effectively implement the rehabilitation package, Mr. Chandy told reporters.

The late-site land allotted to the settlers is not worthy of any kind of cultivation and the settler families numbering about 160 should be accommodated in a better place to also set a decent living, Mr. Chandy said on seeing the plight of the few settlers.

Government may ban hazardous pesticides

Initially, the ban may apply to sensitive and biodiversity-rich areas

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The government is considering a ban on red (extremely toxic) and yellow (highly toxic) categories of pesticides in phases against the background of mounting protests against pesticides in the State, especially in Kasargod and Idukki districts.

Initially, the ban will apply to sensitive and biodiversity-rich areas and areas where pesticide use is intense. However, there would not be an immediate ban on pesticide use in cardamom and tea plantations. Prescription by an agriculture officer might be made mandatory for sale of pesticides.

In Idukki district, ban on

use of red and yellow categories of pesticides is likely to come into effect for food crops such as vegetables, banana and paddy at Devikulam, Idukki, Thodupuzha, Elamadaan and Adimali. Agriculture Minister Muthalala Ratnakaram has asked the Director of Agriculture to prepare detailed proposals in this regard.

The government has already decided to withdraw licences to sell red and yellow categories of pesticides in Kasargod district.

The Drugs Controller of Idukki recently took action against medical shops for selling steroids and other allopathic medicines for agriculture use. Medical shops have been warned against

selling medicines in large quantities.

Rules permit only sale of limited number of pills of certain steroids and that too only against prescription. Steroids and other medicines are used in cardamom plantations to stimulate growth.

Meanwhile, protests are growing from within Idukki district against excessive use of pesticides in plantations and vegetable gardens.

Trade unions, which were reluctant to talk about pesticides and their impact on the workers, have started coming out against pesticides.

K.A. Mami, president of the Malanadu Plantation Employees Union (CITU), said the union had decided to oppose use of Endosulfan which was coming under false labels from Tamil Nadu.

The union considered the use of monocrotophos, and

Agriculture Director asked to prepare proposals

Prescription of agriculture officer to be mandatory

phosphates as risky and wanted to discourage their use.

Cancers and several other afflictions, which could be related to use of pesticides had become common in Idukki district. Many had not realised the gravity of the situation.

Hence, the union planned to create awareness among workers. Ulcers, asthma, kidney diseases and gynaecological problems were seen to be increasing among workers over the years.

Often, the workers were not using protective gear such

as special clothing, field boots and gloves. Estate owners usually did not provide them. Even if the owners provided them, the workers were reluctant to use them, he said.

Campaigners like C.J. Joseph of Kattappana call for restrictions on use of pesticides. There was also need for better treatment facilities in the district, he said.

Students of nearly 30 schools organised a human chain from Nedumkandam to Harakkulam on Wednesday against the use of the banned pesticide Endosulfan.

Swaran Samakalika Velli held an exhibition of 100 cartoons by B. Balachandran on the theme of Endosulfan at 10 locations in the district. Churches Auxiliary for Social Action organised a march against Endosulfan at Cheruthol in the district last week.

Endosulfan victims to be given higher pension

Chief Minister to distribute biometric cards

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Persons in 11 panchayats of Kasaragod district who have been identified as Endosulfan victims will get enhanced pension and biometric cards for free treatment this month.

Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan will launch the rehabilitation scheme by distributing biometric cards to the affected in Kasaragod on Friday. Under the new scheme, being implemented through the Kerala Social Security Mission, under the Social Welfare Department, each bed-ridden and severely

• Pension raised from Rs.300 to Rs. 2,000

• Free medicare for those with biometric cards

affected victim will get Rs.2,000 as monthly pension from December, 2010.

The government had been paying Rs.300 to all bed-ridden and severely affected victims under an earlier scheme from January to November. They will be given an additional Rs.1,700 now. Similarly, those who have not received the disability pension would be paid Rs.2,000 every month.

The Social Security Mission would also pay Rs.1,000 as monthly aid from December to all other Endosulfan victims, who have been issued certificates by the Health Department. The mission now pays Rs.300 every month to 533 bed-ridden victims who were identified at medical camps organised by it in the 11 panchayats. Medical boards that examined the victims had issued them certifi-

icates and identity cards.

The biometric cards being issued to the Endosulfan victims would make them eligible for free healthcare at the Sree Chitra Thirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology and Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram; General Hospital, Kasaragod; District Hospital, Kanhangad; Malabar Cancer Centre, Thalassery; District Hospital, Kannur; General Hospital, Thalassery; Pariyaram Medical College, Kannur; Women and Children's Hospital, Mangattuparamba Kannur; and Government Medical College, Kozhikode.

Enhanced pension given to Endosulfan victims

Biometric cards to facilitate free specialised medical care

Staff Reporter

KASARAGOD: Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan on Friday inaugurated the disbursement of enhanced pension and biometric cards to persons afflicted with serious ailments and permanent disabilities suspected to be caused by the aerial spraying of Endosulfan on the cashew estates of the Plantation Corporation of Kerala (PCK) in the district. The biometric card will make them eligible to get specialised medical treatment free of cost.

Unscientific spraying

Mr. Achuthanandan said unscientific and prolonged spraying of the pesticide had resulted in untold hardship to those living close to the cashew estates and led to mental and physical retardation and a host of genetic deformity among them.

Stating that the Union government had the responsibility to provide matching relief to the affected people, he said the Left Democratic Front (LDF) government had sought a Rs.100-crore financial assistance from the Centre for the purpose.

He said the LDF government had declared a comprehensive package to rehabilitate the victims and enhanced the pension to Rs.2,000 from Rs.300 for bedridden persons and Rs.1,000 for physically and mentally challenged victims. The government, after carrying out a detailed survey on the victims' health condi-



SOLACE: Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan disbursing enhanced pension and biometric cards to victims of aerial spraying of Endosulfan at the Government High School in Kasaragod on Friday.

tions, had decided the mode of treatment with the assistance of expert doctors drawn from various specialty hospitals. The digital biometric cards will make them eligible to get medical treatment from various hospitals free of cost, Mr. Achuthanandan said.

On the basis of reports, the government had decided to take stern steps to ban the use of Endosulfan in Palakkad and Malappuram districts, he said.

Presiding over the function, Health Minister P.K. Sreenivasulu said the government, by coming out with a comprehensive relief package, had virtually adopted the affected families right from 2006 when the CPI(M)-led

government came to power in the State.

Having completed a detailed survey of the affected victims and their families, the government was open to accommodating fresh persons on the official list of Endosulfan victims.

Revenue Minister K.P. Rajendran, P. Karanachari, MP, Palippuram Balan, C.H. Kunhammu, K.V. Kunhiraman and K. Kunhiraman, MLAs, district panchayat president P.P. Shyamala Devi, District Collector Anand Singh, and Director of Social Welfare Department Dinash Aravind were among those who attended the function held at Government High School here.

മാധ്യമം കേരളീയം എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ: ക്യാമ്പുകളിലെത്തിയവരിൽ 27 ശതമാനം മാരകരോഗികൾ

സി.കെ.എ. ജബ്ബാർ

കാസർഗോട് എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ പുനരധിവാസ പാക്കേജിന്റെ ഭാഗമായി നടന്ന ആരോഗ്യവകുപ്പിന്റെ മെഡിക്കൽ ക്യാമ്പുകളിൽ പങ്കെടുത്തവരിൽ 27 ശതമാനവും വിവിധ ചികിത്സ ആവശ്യമുള്ള മാരക രോഗികളാണെന്ന് കണ്ടെത്തി. മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി വി.എസ്. അച്യുതാനന്ദൻ വെള്ളിയാഴ്ച കാസർഗോട്ട് രോഗികൾക്ക് സൗജന്യ ചികിത്സയ്ക്കുള്ള ബന്ധമെടുപ്പിന് കാർഡ് വിതരണം ചെയ്ത നീതിക്കെ എഴുത രോഗികൾക്ക് ഈ കാർഡ് നൽകേണ്ടി നൽകുന്നത് നിവർത്തിക്കാനാവത്ത വിധം കണക്കുകൾ പെരുക്കുകയാണ്. മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി വെള്ളിയാഴ്ച കാർഡ് വിതരണം ചെയ്യുന്നത് പത്തുപേർക്കാണ്. എന്നാൽ, മുഖാഴിടത്തോളം രോഗികൾക്ക് കാർഡ് നൽകേണ്ടിവയ്ക്കുന്നതാണ് എകദേശ കണക്ക്.

നാൽ എത്രപേർക്ക് എത്രയും മാരക രോഗമുണ്ടെന്ന പാക്കേജി പട്ടിക തയ്യാറാക്കാനായിട്ടില്ല. എന്നാൽ, നാഡി തളിപ്പിച്ചതോടെ ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട മാരകമായ രോഗികളാണ് ഏറെയെന്ന് ക്യാമ്പിൽ തെളുപ്പം നൽകിയ വിവരങ്ങൾ അനുസരിച്ചാണ് സർക്കാർ നൽകി. കൂട്ടികളിൽ ഏതാമതും സ്വയംതള്ളിത്തന്നിട്ടുള്ള ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട രോഗികൾക്ക് കാണപ്പെടുന്നു. തൃശ്ശൂരിലുള്ളതായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട രോഗങ്ങളുടെ എണ്ണം ഇത്രയേറെയെങ്കിൽ പെട്ടെന്ന് കിട്ടിക്കിട്ടിട്ടുള്ളതാണ് അത്യാവർത്തിക. 'എല്ലാവർക്കും ആരോഗ്യം' എന്ന കേരളത്തിന്റെ പൊതുജനാരോഗ്യ ചുമ്ര വാക്യത്തെ കളങ്കപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതാണ് ഈ അനുഭവം. ക്യാമ്പിൽ പങ്കെടുത്ത വിവരങ്ങൾ സർക്കാർ പരസ്യം ചെയ്തു.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഉപയോഗിച്ച 11 പഞ്ചായത്തുകൾ കേന്ദ്രീകരിച്ച് നടത്തിയ മെഡിക്കൽ ക്യാമ്പുകളിൽ 15,988 പേരാണ് പങ്കെടുത്തതെന്ന് ക്യാമ്പിലെത്തിയവരെല്ലാം എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ മാരകമായതായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി പറഞ്ഞു. ഇതുമായി ബന്ധിച്ച് 27 ശതമാനവും വിവിധ ചികിത്സ ആവശ്യമാണെന്ന് വ്യക്തമായി ഒരു ശ്രമം നടന്നു. എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ മാരക വിഷമത്തിന്റെ വിപരീത ഏതായാണെന്ന് ബോധ്യപ്പെടേണ്ടതാണ്. എൻ

ഡോസൾഫാൻ വിപരീതവെക്കുന്നില്ല ഇനിയും പഠനം വേണ്ടതാണ് പറയുന്നവയുടെ കണ്ണുതുറപ്പിക്കേണ്ട കണക്കാണിതെന്ന് ചൂണ്ടിക്കാണിക്കപ്പെടുന്നു.

ക്യാമ്പിൽ പങ്കെടുത്ത് വിവിധ ചികിത്സ ആവശ്യമുള്ളവരിൽ ഏതാമതും തരം രോഗങ്ങളുടെ അടിയുണ്ടാകുന്നവർക്കിടയിലാണ് മോശപ്പെട്ടതെന്ന് അറിയപ്പെടുന്നത്. ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട കേന്ദ്രങ്ങൾ അറിയിച്ചു. 11 പഞ്ചായത്തുകളിലായി 17 രോഗങ്ങൾ ക്യാമ്പുകളിൽ രോഗിതരായി, ജന്മവിമാനങ്ങളിലായി നടന്നത്. കേരളത്തിലെ അഞ്ച് സർക്കാർ മെഡിക്കൽ കോളേജുകളിലെ പ്രധാനധികാരികൾക്ക് 125 രോഗികൾക്ക്, ആരോഗ്യവകുപ്പിലെ 170 രോഗികൾക്ക് എത്തിയ ഈ ക്യാമ്പുകളിൽ പങ്കെടുത്തു. എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഉപയോഗിച്ചവർക്ക് സൗജന്യമായി കാർഡ് നൽകുന്നത്. ഇവർക്ക് ശുചിത്വ, മലബോർ കാർഡ് നൽകി, രോഗിതരോട് മെഡിക്കൽ കോളേജ് തുടങ്ങിക്കൊള്ളുന്നതിനെ 10 പ്രമുഖ ആശുപത്രികളിൽ ചികിത്സ ഇതിന് സൗജന്യമായിത്തന്നെന്ന് ജില്ലാ കലക്ടർ ആനന്ദൻ അറിയിച്ചു. ഈ കാർഡ് നൽകി എത്തുന്നവരുടെ ചികിത്സ പെലവിനത്തിൽ ആശുപത്രികൾക്ക് മെട്രിക് കാർഡ് 50 മെട്രിക് രൂപ ജില്ലാ കലക്ടറുടെ ഓഫീസിൽ എത്തിച്ചേർന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്.

27 % more of people are victims

Kasargod: The chief minister of Kerala, V S Achudananth said that 27% of people Attended the medical camps held in endosulfan affected areas are victims. He was distributing bio metric cards to endosulfan victims. These cards will help them to access free medical service.

15/11/2011

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ദുരിതബാധിതർക്ക് സൗജന്യ രേഷൻ

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: സംസ്ഥാന പൊതുവിതരണ സ്വയംസേവകർക്ക് റേഷൻ കർഡുകൾ വഴി ഈ മാസം വിതരണം ചെയ്യുന്നതിന് റേഷൻ സാധനങ്ങൾ അനുവദിച്ചതായി സിവിൽ സപ്ലൈസ് ഡയറക്ടർ അറിയിച്ചു. എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ദുരിതബാധിതർക്ക് സൗജന്യമായി അർഹതപ്പെട്ട വിഹിതം ക്ഷേമസംഗ്രഹം ലഭിക്കും.

ബിപിഎൽ കാർഡ് ഉടമകൾക്ക് പ്രതിമാസം രണ്ടുരൂപ നിരക്കിൽ 4 കിലോ അരിയും ആറു കിലോ ഗോതമ്പും അർഹതയുണ്ടായിരിക്കും. ഇതിനായി 34434 മെട്രിക് ടൺ അരിയും 9025 മെട്രിക് ടൺ ഗോതമ്പും അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

എപിഎൽ വിഭാഗത്തിൽപ്പെട്ട ഹിഷ്കത്തൊഴിലാളി, കയർ, കറുവണ്ടി, കൈത്തറി, ബീഡി, നന്നു, ഇറ്റ, ഖാദി, തോട്ടം തൊഴിലാളികൾക്കും ദേശീയ തൊഴിലുറപ്പ് പദ്ധതിയിൽ 50 ദിവസമെങ്കിലും പണിയെടുത്തവർ, തഴപ്പായ നിർമ്മാണം, മണിപാത്ര നിർമ്മാണം എന്നിവയിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ട വിഭാഗങ്ങൾക്കും പ്രതിമാസം 12 കിലോ അരിയും മൂന്ന് കിലോ ഗോതമ്പും രണ്ടുരൂപ നിരക്കിൽ ലഭിക്കും. ചുവടെ പറയുന്ന വിഭാഗങ്ങളെയും പദ്ധതിയിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ട്.

പരമ്പരാഗത ആഭരണ നിർമ്മാണത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ, ഓട്ടുകമ്പനി തൊഴിലാളികൾ, ഓട്ടോമൊബൈൽ റിപ്പയറിംഗ് തൊഴിലാളികൾ, സ്കൂൾ ശുചികരണ, പാചക തൊഴിലാളികൾ, ഭാഗ്യക്കുറി മേഖലയിലെ തൊഴിലാളികൾ, ഓട്ടോറിക്ഷാ തൊഴിലാളികൾ, ഇപിഎഫ് പെൻഷൻകാർ, നിർമ്മാണ തൊഴിലാളികൾ, കളളുചെത്തു തൊഴിലാളികൾ, വികലാംഗർ, പെട്രോൾ ബങ്കിൽ പണിയെടുക്കുന്നവർ, കർഷകത്തൊഴിലാളി ക്ഷേമനിധി ബോർഡിൽ അംഗമല്ലാത്ത കൃഷിനിധി ഇല്ലാത്ത നിർമ്മാണ തൊഴിലാളികൾ, ചുമട്ടുത്തൊഴിലാളികൾ, മോട്ടോർ തൊഴിലാളികൾ, കരകൗശലരംഗത്തെ തൊഴിലാളികൾ, കരുവണ്ടി തോട്ടം തൊഴിലാളികൾ, തയ്യൽ തൊഴിലാളികൾ, സർക്കാരിതര ഖാദി ജീവനക്കാർ, ക്ഷീരകർഷകർ, പെയിന്റർ തൊഴിലാളികൾ, വ്യവസായം (കൈത്തൊഴിൽ), മുദ്രസംഗ്രഹം (കൈത്തൊഴിൽ), മുദ്രസംഗ്രഹം (കൈത്തൊഴിൽ), ഗാർഹിക തൊഴിലാളികൾ.

എപിഎൽ കാർഡിന് പ്രതിമാസം 8.90 രൂപ നിരക്കിൽ 12 കിലോ അരിയും 6.70 രൂപ നിരക്കിൽ മൂന്ന് കിലോ ഗോതമ്പും വിതരണം തുടരുന്നു. എപിഎൽ വിഭാഗത്തിനായി 52375 മെട്രിക് ടൺ അരിയും 15965 മെട്രിക് ടൺ ഗോതമ്പും അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. എഎവൈ വിഭാഗത്തിൽപ്പെട്ടവർക്ക് രണ്ടു രൂപ നിരക്കിൽ 35 കിലോ അരി ഓരോ മാസവും ലഭിക്കും. ഇതിനായി 20855 മെട്രിക് ടൺ അരി അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

കൂടാതെ 2011 ജനുവരി, ഫെബ്രുവരി മാസങ്ങളിൽ ഓരോ എഎവൈ കാർഡ് ഉടമയ്ക്കും 10 കിലോ അരി വിതരണം അധികമായി ലഭിക്കും.

അനപൂർണ്ണ കാർഡ് ഉടമകൾക്ക് പ്രതിമാസം 10 കിലോ അരി സൗജന്യമായി ലഭിക്കും. വൈദ്യുതീകരിക്കാത്ത വീടുകൾക്ക് അഞ്ചു ലിറ്റർ മെണ്ണയ്ക്കും വൈദ്യുതീകരിച്ച വീടുകൾക്ക് രണ്ടു ലിറ്റർ മെണ്ണയ്ക്കും പ്രതിമാസം 12.30 രൂപ മുതൽ 12.70 വരെ നിരക്കിൽ ലഭിക്കാൻ അർഹതയുണ്ടാവും. കിലോഗ്രാമിന് 13.50 രൂപ നിരക്കിൽ ബിപിഎൽ/എഎവൈ വിഭാഗത്തിലെ ഓരോ അംഗത്തെയും 400 ഗ്രാം പഞ്ചസാര ഓരോ മാസവും ലഭിക്കും. കൂടാതെ 2011 ജനുവരിയിൽ എല്ലാ ബിപിഎൽ/എഎവൈ കാർഡ് ഉടമയ്ക്കും ഒരു കിലോ വിതരണം സ്പെഷൽ പഞ്ചസാരയും 13.50 രൂപ നിരക്കിൽ ലഭിക്കും.

Free ration for endosulfan victim

Thiruvananthapuram: Government of Kerala decided to provide free ration to the families of endosulfan victims

കാസരീകോട്: ജനനയുടനീ
 ളിൻ പിഴവാക്ക് ഏൽക്കാനാവാ
 ളാൻ മുഖനത്തിന് കാണാതെ
 ന്ൻ മുഖമുള്ളി.വി.എസ്.അയ്യ
 നത്താണി പറഞ്ഞു. ഇടയ്ക്കുന
 ളി ഗവണ്മെന്റിൻ ഏൽക്കേ
 നാനാവാൻ ഇരിക്കുകയ്ക്ക് കഴി
 യു്ന സഹായമെല്ലാം ലഭ്യസ്
 സ്യമാകട്ടെ. കേന്ദ്രത്തിന്റെ
 സവിപകം അനുകൂലമായിട്ടില്ല
 സ്വ. അദ്ദേഹംപറഞ്ഞു.

എറീഡോസറോഫാൻ മുതിർത്ത അധികാരയുക്തരായ ഭരണികൾക്കു സാമ്പത്തിക സഹായവും സൗജന്യ ചികിത്സയ്ക്കായി ബേയോടെക്സ് കോർഡ് വിതരണവും ഉൾക്കൊണ്ട പൊതുക്കരുതയില്ലാത്ത മുഖമന്ത്രി.

[illegible]

സ്കാനിങ്ങ് ഡ്രിങ്ക്ബോളിൽ അ
പ്തിരൂപപ്പടികൾ നിർമ്മിക്കുകയും
കുടാശ്വാസതരപ്പടികൾ
നഗ്നീകരിക്കണമെന്നാണ്.

സുഗന്ധകാരി ദൃഢധ്വജൻ മേനോൻ സമാജത്തിനായി സജീവമായി
കൊണ്ടു. അന്ത്യകുലശാഖയിൽ പ്രതിനിധി
ച്ചിട്ടുള്ള തത്സമുദായപക്ഷത്തിൽ ഏറെ
മേധാസംഭരമായി തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കപ്പെട്ട
ഒരുതലയോൻ സർവ്വകലാശാലയിൽ അധ്യാപന
വൃത്തി, ഇദ്ദേഹി, പലക്കാലം ജീവിച്ച
കുട്ടിയിൽ എന്തോരസംഭരമായി പേരും
ദൃഢമായി എതിർക്കുന്നതിൽ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ
പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ളതെങ്കിലും, അന്ത്യകുലശാഖയിൽ
കഴിഞ്ഞതോളം സജീവമായിട്ടുള്ള
തൊന്നും, മുഖമുദാഹരണമല്ല.

ഏതാവോസരംമാറി ഇരുകൂട്ടരും പട്ടികയിൽ പെടാത്തവരിൽ ഇനി അഡ്മിനിക്കേഷനാണ് സ്വകാര്യമെന്നും ഒഴിഞ്ഞുപോയ മുഴുവൻപേരെയും പട്ടികയിൽപ്പെടുത്തണമെന്നും ചർച്ചയിൽ അധ്യക്ഷതവഹിച്ച അനൗദ്യോഗിക പി.കെ.ശ്രീദേവി പറഞ്ഞു.

എൻഡോസൾഫാത് നെയ്ക്കൽ ക്യാമ്പിൽ പങ്കെടുത്ത 60 ശതമാനം കുട്ടികളിലും സാനിറ്റേഷൻ കൈകൾ കഴുകാൻ ഉപദേശിക്കുന്നതിലൂടെയും റിപ്പോർട്ട് അവതരിപ്പിച്ച സമ്മേളനത്തിന്റെ ഭാഗമായി എൻഡോസൾഫാത് നെയ്ക്കൽ ക്യാമ്പിൽ പങ്കെടുത്തവരുടെയും അനുബന്ധമായി

[illegible][illegible]

**സംഗതാപദ്ധതികളിൽ
ശ്രദ്ധപ്രസാദ്**
കാസർഗോട്: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ തുറകൾക്ക് സംഗതാപദ്ധതിയുടെ ഭാഗമായി മധ്യഭൂമിയിൽ ഉൾപ്പെട്ട ചെട്ടിയിലെത്തിയ അ

പുനർജന്മ ബാലപൈതൃകവിരുദ്ധതയെ തടയാൻ ക്രിസ്തുമതം കേൾക്കുന്നവർക്ക് പത്തു വയസ്സോടെ ശിശുപുനർജന്മം നൽകാൻ അനുവാദം നൽകിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇതാണ് ഇന്ത്യയിലെ ആദ്യത്തെ നിയമം. സാധാരണ കുട്ടികൾക്ക്, കാൽക്കൽക്കൽ നൽകി, പാൽക്കൽക്കൽ നൽകി, സ്കൂളിലായിട്ടുണ്ട്. സംഭവം പരിഹരിക്കാൻ കഴിയില്ല. ഇന്ത്യയിലെ ആദ്യത്തെ നിയമം കഴിയാൻ കഴിയില്ല. ഇന്ത്യയിലെ ആദ്യത്തെ നിയമം കഴിയാൻ കഴിയില്ല. ഇന്ത്യയിലെ ആദ്യത്തെ നിയമം കഴിയാൻ കഴിയില്ല.

കുടിപ്പണിക്കാരൻ ഉണ്ണുനായർ
ക്കിടാൻ മൃത്യുക്കെതിർമുത്താ-
നാണ് തിരുവല്ലസാർ. ഉദ്യോഗ-
നച്ചടങ്ങുകൾക്ക് മേൽ
നോക്കാ മുമ്പെന്തിന് വിഷ്ണു അ-
ണ്ണുനായരെയും, ആരോഗ്യമന്ത്രി
പി.കെ.ശ്രീമതിയും കിടന്ന കുട്ടി-
യെ ആശ്വസിപ്പിക്കാൻ വന്നില്ല.

Kazargod: The chief minister of Kerala, V S Achudananthan, said that the endosulfan tragedy is a mistake from government. He accused central government for not banning the pesticide and bring relief to the victims.

THE HINDU/ FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2011

Long-pending demand of people

Special Correspondent

BANGALORE: The State government on Thursday banned the use of Endosulfan with immediate effect. This has been a long-pending demand of the people of Dakshin Kannada, Uttara Kannada and Udupi districts in particular and reports have it that a lobby of the manufacturers had come in the way of introducing such a ban for several years.

Briefing presspersons after a meeting of the State Cabinet, Minister for Higher Education V.S. Acharya said the Cabinet discussed the harmful effects of Endosulfan. The government would now invoke the provisions of the Insecticides Act of 1968 and write a detailed letter to the Union government with reference to the ban. As per the provisions, a State government can write to the Centre by virtue of which a ban can be imposed albeit for a brief period. Energy, Food and Civil Supplies Minister Shobha Karandlaje, who has been spearheading a movement for banning Endosulfan, said "I am grateful to Chief Minister B.S. Yeddyurappa and the members of the Cabinet for approving the ban. It is unfortunate that the Union government is still bending to the

- Manufacturers' lobby said to have been in the way

- Kerala first State to ban Endosulfan on October 31, 2006

lobby of Endosulfan manufacturers. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh should intervene in the matter."

Kerala was the first State to ban Endosulfan, on October 31, 2006.

'Farmers to be hit'

PTI adds from Kolkata: Indian farmers will be hit hard if Endosulfan comes under the ban order by the Stockholm Convention in April this year at the European Union's insistence for it being a Persistent Organic Pollutant (POP).

The off-patent pesticide Endosulfan has been proposed to be listed as a POP and India is facing mounting pressure not to oppose European Union proposal to list Endosulfan as a POP. Pesticides Manufacturers and Formulators Association of India president Pradi Dave said. Crop Care Foundation of India Director Anil Kakkar said the move would pose a serious challenge to Indian farmers.

Curbs imposed on sale of pesticide

Special
Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM:

The government has issued directions making prescriptions from agriculture officers mandatory for sale of pesticides in the State.

The government issued guidelines following indiscriminate and uncontrolled use of pesticides in farms causing health problems in various parts of the State.

An official release said pesticides should henceforth be sold by dealers only against prescription from an officer of the Department of Agriculture not below the rank of agriculture officer.

The prescription should indicate the crop, disease, chemical name and the quantum of pesticide required. The depot dealers should maintain register giving the details of the pesticides sold.

thus. Action would be taken against defaulters.

The release said that the Director of Agriculture had been asked to implement the order urgently.

The directive had been issued as the first phase of implementation of the policy to free the State from pesticides and introduce organic farming throughout the State and also against the background of use of banned pesticides with red and yellow labels in the State.

Various health problems had been reported from different parts of the State because of acute and chronic poisoning from pesticides.

There was also indication that congenital abnormalities, cancers and certain other diseases were on the increase in the plantation areas of the State.

Honeybees turn Endosulfan victims

Decline in number of pollinators reduces yield potential of crops

Roy Mathew

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Indiscriminate use of pesticides has resulted in the decline of honeybee population in Idukki and Kasaragod districts, studies show.

S. Devanesan, Professor and Principal Scientist, All India Co-ordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Honeybees and Pollinators, College of Agriculture of Kerala Agricultural University, Vellayani, said indiscriminate use of pesticides caused disappearance of pollinators, especially honeybees. This, in turn, caused decline in yield potential of cardamom in Idukki district.

He said the scientists of AICRP who had visited Idukki to study the diversity of honeybees had found that

Endosulfan had been used there under a different trade name. The day after the application of the pesticide, bees had showed symptoms of poisoning and died.

"The bees visited the flowers and returned near to the beehive but were unable to direct their flight to the hive entrance. The poisoned bees showed decreased aggressiveness and the paralysed bees crawled on nearby objects, resulting in reduced food storage and brood rearing and decline in population in the colony," Dr. Devanesan said.

A decline in the number of feral colonies of honeybees as well as hived colonies had been observed in the areas. The observations in the plantations had revealed a drastic reduction in the fruit set of

cardamom capsules in the areas where the pesticide use was high, he said.

Important role

Honeybees play an important role in pollinating flowering plants. They are the major pollinators in cardamom, coffee, coconut, cashew, many vegetables like cucurbits and leguminous plants including peas and beans. Honeybees have many qualities which help them to be a good pollinator, and all bee species are pollinators.

Koragas affected

A study by Thanal, a public interest research, advocacy, education and action trust here, showed that honeybees had been affected and almost wiped out in the Endosulfan-sprayed areas of Kasaragod district. It affected the tribal community of Koragas, most of whom used to collect honey from the forests, and traditional organised beekeepers.

• Bees die the day after pesticide application

• Decline in number of feral and hived colonies

Many keepers had witnessed mass kill of bees following spraying of Endosulfan by the State-owned Plantation Corporation of Kerala.

A survey and analysis conducted by M. Lakshmi Narasimhan and C. Jayakumar of Thanal among 31 beekeepers showed that the annual production of honey by beekeepers had been 12,015 kg before aerial spraying of Endosulfan started.

That had come down to 68.5 kg in mid-'80s when the spraying had been going on. After the ban on aerial spraying, the production rose marginally to 133 kg. Though half of the beekeepers had re-

sumed operations after the spraying was discontinued, production failed to pick up proportionally.

Decline in production

In the case of 14 members of honey collecting Koraga tribe surveyed, the availability of forest honey had come down from 3,375 kg annually before Endosulfan spraying to 938 kg during Endosulfan spray. The financial loss calculated just for 45 beekeepers and collectors at the same production level as in 1970s but at prices of 2008 is estimated to be Rs.29 lakh annually. If that is projected for the whole of affected areas in the district, the financial loss could run into several crores of rupees, they observed.

The study indicated that the disappearance of bees had affected yield from areca nut trees in the area. Farmers complained that yield had gone down by half after the spraying had started.

Centre to go by ICMR advice on Endosulfan

Four expert committees since 1991 advised against ban

Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI: The Centre will go by the recommendations of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in deciding whether or not to ban Endosulfan, a pesticide which had adversely affected some cashew-growing districts in Kerala.

Responding to a question in the Lok Sabha here on Tuesday, Union Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar said the government would accept the recommendations of the committee, which had been set up by the ICMR to look into the adverse impact of

• Aerial spraying is the problem: Pawar

• Karnataka last week decided on six-month ban

this pesticide on health, following complaints and media reports over the hazards posed by it.

No objection

However, Mr. Pawar said the Centre had no objection to the Karnataka government's decision to ban the use of Endosulfan across the State, following reports of its adverse consequences, particularly in the Dakshina

Kannada district. Four expert committees had been set up since 1991, and all of them had advised against the ban.

Mr. Pawar attributed the disastrous consequences of the pesticide to its being sprayed aerially, which was against the guidelines. He said farmers in a number of States had said they had no problem in using the chemical as it was giving good results. The Karnataka Cabinet

last week decided to ban the use of Endosulfan for a period of six months. The Endosulfan Manufacturers and Formulators Welfare Association (EMFWA) moved the Karnataka High Court challenging the ban.

Mr. Pawar said the pesticide was being used in at least 40 countries, including Brazil, Australia and China.

Mr. Pawar said farmers had been advised against the spraying of Endosulfan on crops, particularly in cashew-nut plantations. Compensation to those affected was the State government's responsibility.

State to ban red category pesticides

Rigorous curbs on use of yellow category

K.A. Martin

KOCHI: The government has finalised plans to ban pesticides in the red category (extremely toxic), the most hazardous ones, from being used in the State and bring rigorous restrictions on the use of those in the yellow category (highly toxic).

The move is part of the State government's plan to turn Kerala into an organic agricultural State over a 10-year period.

The programme was unveiled by Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan in Kozhikode in May last year.

Pesticides like Carbofuran, Phorate, Monocrotophos, Phosphamidon, Methyl Parathion and Methomyl face the axe from the Package of Practices, revised regularly by Kerala Agricultural University.

Revised package

Sources in the university said the revised package was being readied for release within a month.

Director of Extension, Kerala Agricultural University,

• Organic agricultural State is the objective

• Scientific community welcomes move

P.V. Balachandran told *The Hindu* that the government had constituted a committee to look into the revision of Package of Practices and review the use of pesticides.

The committee had submitted its recommendations and withdrawal of the most hazardous of the pesticides was among the suggestions that came up.

The State government had banned hazardous pesticides in Kasaragod district as part of a pilot programme announced by the Department of Agriculture.

Along with pesticides, the ban may cover red category fungicides also.

A scientist familiar with the field practices adopted by farmers said the recent bouts of increased pest attacks triggered by unseasonal rain had

forced farmers to use highly hazardous pesticides like Carbofuran.

While the recommended dose for Carbofuran was a kg per hectare of rice paddy, the actual use was much higher.

For banana, the recommended dose was 50 gm per plant for Carbofuran though the actual use was much higher.

The approved quantity of Phorate on a banana plant is 75 gm whereas the actual application far exceeded this.

Farmers also sometimes take recourse to applying pesticides that are not recommended for a particular crop. The ban on red category and severe restrictions on yellow category are expected to bring in revolutionary changes in the way agriculture is conducted in the State, a scientist here said.

The move is a welcome one said a senior scientist based in north Kerala.

The scientist said that application of some of the most dangerous pesticides appeared to be rampant, especially in some plantation crops.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ: 125 കോടി സഹായം ആവശ്യപ്പെടും

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: കാസർകോട്ടെ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ദുരന്തബാധിതർക്കു നഷ്ടപരിഹാരം നൽകാൻ സംസ്ഥാന സർക്കാർ തയ്യാറാക്കിയ പാക്കേജ് പ്രകാരം 125 കോടി രൂപ സഹായധനം അനുവദിക്കാൻ കേന്ദ്രത്തോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെടാൻ മന്ത്രിസഭായോഗം തീരുമാനിച്ചു. ഇതിനു പുറമെ ദേശീയ മനുഷ്യാവകാശ കമ്മീഷൻ ശുപാർശ ചെയ്ത വർധിപ്പിച്ച തോതിലുള്ള നഷ്ടപരിഹാരം നൽകുന്നതിനായി 217 കോടി രൂപ അനുവദിക്കാനും കേന്ദ്രത്തോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെടും.

കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിന്റെ ഗ്രാമ ന്യായാലയ ആക്ടിൽ വിഭാവനം ചെയ്ത പോലെ സംസ്ഥാനത്തു 30 ബ്ലോക്കുകളിൽ ഗ്രാമ ന്യായാലയങ്ങൾ തുടങ്ങും. കേന്ദ്ര ഫണ്ടും സംസ്ഥാന ഫണ്ടും ഉപയോഗിച്ചായിരിക്കും ന്യായാലയങ്ങൾ ആരംഭിക്കുക. വിയ്യൂരിൽ വനിതാ ജയിൽ നിർമ്മിക്കും.

125 crores sought for rehabilitation of endosulfan victims

Thiruvananthapuram : The government of Kerala sought Rs. 125 crores from Central government for rehabilitating endosulfan victims.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഡി.വൈ.എഫ്.ഐ. പ്രക്ഷോഭത്തിലേക്ക്

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ അനുകൂലമായ കോൺഗ്രസിന്റെയും കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിന്റെയും നിലപാടിനെതിരെ ശക്തമായ പ്രതിഷേധം ഉയർത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുവരുമെന്ന് ഡി.വൈ.എഫ്.ഐ. സംസ്ഥാന പ്രസിഡന്റ് എം.ബി. രാജേഷ് എം.പിയും ഡി.വൈ.എഫ്.ഐ. സംസ്ഥാന പ്രസിഡന്റ് എം.ബി. രാജേഷും പത്രക്കുറിപ്പിൽ അറിയിച്ചു. എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ കീടനാശിനി മാത്രമല്ല മനുഷ്യ പരിസ്ഥിതി നാശിനി കൂടിയാണ്.

എന്നിട്ടും സ്റ്റോക്ക് ഹോമിൽ നടന്ന സാർവദേശീയ സമ്മേളനത്തിലുൾപ്പെടെ ഈ മാർകവിഷം നിരോധിക്കേണ്ടതില്ലെന്ന നിലപാടാണ് സ്വീകരിച്ചത്.

പ്രക്ഷോഭത്തിന്റെ തുടക്കമെന്ന നിലയിൽ 9ന് മുഴുവൻ ജില്ലാ കേന്ദ്രങ്ങളിലും എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ വിരുദ്ധ പ്രകടനം നടത്തി പ്രധാനമന്ത്രിയുടെയും കേന്ദ്രമന്ത്രി കെ.വി. തോമസിന്റെയും കോലം കുത്തിക്കുമെന്നും ഡി.വൈ.എഫ്.ഐ. സംസ്ഥാന ഭാരവാഹികൾ അറിയിച്ചു.

Endosulfan: DYFI protests.

Thiruvananthapuram(Kerala),Nov.5: Demanding total ban on endosulfan, DYFI plans to organise. It decided to organise protest march in each district capitals on 9th November. "India's stand in Stockholm convention is unacceptable", it observed. "effigies of priminister and agricultural minister will be burnd as part of protest", they said.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണം- ശാസ്ത്രസാഹിത്യ പരിഷത്ത്

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ പ്രശ്നത്തിൽ കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാർ സ്വീകരിച്ച നിലപാട് ജനവിരുദ്ധവും അശാസ്ത്രീയവുമാണെന്നും കേന്ദ്ര സഹമന്ത്രി കെ.വി. തോമസിന്റെ പ്രസ്താവന വസ്തുതകൾക്ക് നിരക്കുന്നതല്ലെന്നും ശാസ്ത്രസാഹിത്യ പരിഷത്ത്.

അന്താരാഷ്ട്ര വേദികളിൽ ഇന്ത്യ മാത്രമാണ് എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധത്തെ എതിർക്കുന്നത്. എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ മൂലം ദുരിതമനുഭവിക്കുന്നവർ ഏറ്റവും കൂടുതലുള്ള രാജ്യമാണ് ഇന്ത്യയെന്നും അവർ പ്രസ്താവനയിൽ പറഞ്ഞു.

കാർഗാറോക്ലോറിൻ വിഭാഗത്തിൽപ്പെട്ട കീടനാശിനിയാണ് എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ. ലോകത്തിലെ ഏറ്റവും അപകടകാരിയായ കീടനാശിനികളിലൊന്നാണിത്. ഇതിന്റെ അപകടസാധ്യതകൾ നിരവധി ഗവേഷണത്തിലൂടെ കണ്ടെത്തിയതിന്റെ ഫലമായാണ് യൂറോപ്യൻ യൂനിയൻ ഉൾപ്പെടെ നിരവധി രാജ്യങ്ങളിൽ നിരോധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത്. ഇന്ത്യയിലെ ജനങ്ങളുടെ താൽപര്യം പരിഗണിച്ച് എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഉൽപ്പാദനവും ഉപയോഗവും അടിയന്തരമായി രാജ്യത്ത് നിരോധിക്കണമെന്ന് കേരള ശാസ്ത്രസാഹിത്യപരിഷത്ത് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു.

Ban Endodulfan: Sastra Sahithya Parisahth

Thiruvananthapuram(Kerala), Nov. 3: "Minister of State for Agriculture K V Thomas's remark on endosulfan is baseless and central government's stand in the issue is unscientific", said Kerala Sastra Sahithya Parisath demanding total ban on endosulfan. "Endosulfan is banned in number of countries including European Union", Parishath said.It urged Central government ot ban endosulfan considering the interest of people in India.

Reema Narendran | ENS
T'Puram, November 5

The 10th meeting of Inter-Ministerial Committee on December 29, 1999, once again recommended that there should be a warning in the labels and leaflets that endosulfan should not be used near water resources. Unfortunately all these recommendations have remained on paper.

It is not that the government was wrong about these facts. It had officially recognised that contamination is highly toxic to aquatic beings, especially fish (see box). If the guidelines of the Central Insecticides Bureau not to use endosulfan near water bodies were implemented in toto, the pesticide would not have been used at all in Kerala, where water bodies are plenty. Had this recommendation been implemented in 1991, the miseries caused to the hundreds of villagers in Kasaragod could have been avoided." Commented J. Usha, director of city-based NGO, Thalal.

Congress leader V M Sudheeran is slated to inaugurate the rights declara-

the spraying of endosulfan. So the commission recommended a comprehensive probe involving members of all disciplines concerned. But such a comprehensive committee was not appointed by the government.

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എൻഡോവ്മെന്റുകൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുകയും ആവശ്യമായ ധനസഹായം ലഭിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കാൻ ഉറപ്പുവരുത്തുകയും ചെയ്തതായി അന്വേഷണ ഓഫീസർ പറയുന്നു. ഇതിനാൽ പാലക്കാട് ജില്ലയിൽ പട്ടിക വർഗ്ഗക്കാർക്ക് ഉന്നത വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം ലഭിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കും.

[illegible]

Dossier on Ban Endosulfan- March 2011

Permanent ban on Endosulfan sought

Staff Reporter

MULIYAR (KASARAGOD): The Endosulfan Victims' Rights Convention held here has urged the Union government to enforce a complete ban on the pesticide. It also asked the authorities concerned to declare a comprehensive rehabilitation and financial package to the families of Endosulfan victims.

India should review its stand on Endosulfan at the recently held sixth meeting of Persistent Organic Pollutants' Review Committee (POPRC) of the Stockholm Convention and enforce a complete ban on the deadly pesticide whose aerial spraying in the cashew estates of Plantation Corporation of Kerala (PCK) in Kasaragod district is suspected to have caused undiagnosed diseases among hundreds of people, forcing them to lead a prolonged life of trauma and agony, the convention said.

Addressing the convention here on Saturday, senior Congress leader V.M. Sudheeran said the administration had the responsibility to ensure the best possible medical care to the victims' family members. "We cannot predict how far medicine can give solace to the mysterious and undiagnosed deformities. But the victims should be ensured the best possible medical care and the government which allowed the use of the now banned pesticide cannot absolve itself of its responsibilities from providing the required assistance to the victims," Mr. Sudheeran said.

The Rights Convention in a memorandum to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh sought permanent ban on the manufacture, sale and use of Endosulfan in any form or in any manner in the country.

The memorandum also suggested constitution of a Tribunal for identification of the deceased and the surviving victims. The memorandum, copies of which were forwarded to Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan, Forest Minister Benoy Viswom and UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi, also sought prosecution of the officials of the PCK and others, who were responsible for violation of safety rules prescribed for the aerial spraying of Endosulfan.

'Endosulfan victim' dead

Staff Reporter

KASARAGOD: A young woman afflicted with mental and physical retardation, suspected to be a victim of Endosulfan, died on Saturday.

Kavitha, 19, resident of Pallathadkka near Perla in the district, died at the Taluk Hospital, hospital sources said. Kavitha, daughter of Venkappa Nair, a farmer who died three years ago due to mysterious diseases, had been suffering from physical and mental abnormalities.

Rally against Endosulfan

A Correspondent

KATTAPPANA: Environmentalists and cultural leaders, under the auspices of the Darsana Cultural Society, will organise a public rally here on November 10 in support of the people's agitation in Kasaragod demanding a total ban on Endosulfan.

The rally will begin from T.B. Junction at 5 p.m. and conclude at the panchayat maidan.

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End use of Endosulfan: DYFI

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: DYFI secretary T.V. Rajesh has asked the government to put an immediate end to use of Endosulfan in the plantations in Idukki.

In a statement here on Monday, Mr. Rajesh alleged that Endosulfan was being

used in the State under other brand names even after the State government banned it. Available information suggested that Endosulfan was being brought into the State by farmers from Kambam in Tamil Nadu. — Special Correspondent

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ

ലോക്സഭയിലും

തൃശ്ശൂർ: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ രാജ്യത്ത് നിരോധിക്കണമെന്ന് പി.ടി.തോമസ് എം.പി. ലോക്സഭയിൽ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ആനുകൂലമായ നിലപാട് കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാർ സ്വീകരിച്ചിരിക്കെ കോൺഗ്രസ് എം.പി. തോമസിന്റെ ആവശ്യം ഏറെ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കപ്പെട്ടു. കേരളത്തിലെ തോട്ട മേഖലകളിലെ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ പ്രയോഗം ഗുരുതരമായ പ്രത്യാഘാതമാണ് സൃഷ്ടിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതെന്ന് എം.പി. ചൂണ്ടിക്കാട്ടി. നൂറുകണക്കിനുള്ളുകളുടെ മരണത്തിന് ഇടയാക്കുകയും മാനാവ്യാധികളിലേയ്ക്ക് തള്ളിവിടുകയും ചെയ്ത എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ കാസർഗോഡ് ജില്ലയിൽ ഗുരുതരമായ ആരോഗ്യ പ്രശ്നങ്ങളാണ് വിതച്ചിരിക്കുന്നത്. ലോകത്തിൽ ഏറ്റവും കൂടുതൽ ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നത് ഇന്ത്യയാണെന്നും ഉൽപാദനം നിർത്തി വയ്പ്പിക്കണമെന്നും മരിച്ചവരുടെ ആശ്രിതർക്കും രോഗികളായി കഴിയുന്നവർക്കും ധനസഹായം നൽകണമെന്നും പി.ടി. തോമസ് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു.

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Rally against Endosulfan

A Correspondent

KATTAPPANA: Environmentalists and cultural leaders, under the auspices of the Darsana Cultural Society, will organise a public rally here on November 10 in support of the people's agitation in Kasaragod demanding a total ban on Endosulfan.

The rally will begin from T.B. Junction at 5 p.m. and conclude at the panchayat maidan.

Ban endosulfan: P T Thomas

New Delhi, Nov.10: P T Thomas, Congress M P from Kerala, demanded complete ban on Endosulfan in parliament. Endosulfan created serious problems in plantation sector in Kerala. It caused death for hundreds of people and left thousands disabled. India is the largest consumer of the pesticides in the world. He asked the government to stop its production and provide compensation and other helps for the victims. (Mangalam)

Ban Endosulfan: Veerendrakumar

Special Correspondent

KOZHIKODE: Union Minister for Agriculture Sharad Pawar should visit the hamlets of Kasaragod where people are suffering due to the use of endosulfan, Socialist Janata (Democratic) State president M.P. Veerendrakumar said here on Wednesday.

The Minister should see how victims of endosulfan live and how a generation of mothers have to help their children, well into their twenties, in primary bodily functions, he said in a letter to the Union Minister.

There would be no point in appointing more committees to study the plight of people there. The families of those affected had decided not to cooperate with any more studies as none had so far

done them any good. They would no more support the parading of endosulfan as scientific exhibits to clear the bureaucratic doubts, Mr. Veerendrakumar said.

The Ahmedabad-based National Institute of Occupational Health had recommended a ban on endosulfan.

Its study had found the pesticide to be the cause behind various diseases prevalent in Kasaragod, he said.

The finding was rubbished by the O.P. Dubey Committee set up by the Central Insecticide Board.

Mr. Dubey had recommended aerial spraying of the pesticide when he was the Director of the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute in Kasaragod, the letter said.

● ENDOSULFAN ISSUE

Sudheeran writes to Sharad Pawar

Express News Service
T'Puram, November 30

CONGRESS leader V M Sudheeran has requested Union Minister for Agriculture and Co-operation Sharad Pawar to withdraw C D Mayee Committee appointed to study the issues related to the use of endosulfan in Kasaragod.

Sudheeran said that he was shocked to see that the Committee was being headed by Dr C D Mayee, who had headed a similar committee in 2004.

"The previous Committee did not find any link between endosulfan and the health issues in Kasaragod, in spite of the innumerable evidences to the contrary. I wish to point out that such a Committee headed by the very same official does not have an iota of credibility and is a clear mockery on the suffering people of Kasaragod," Sudheeran said in his letter to Pawar. The previous C D Mayee Committee was appointed to review the conclusions of Dr O P Dubey Committee, both Committees concluded that there was no link between endosulfan and health disorders.

This was in total contradiction with the reports of medical teams appointed to study the issue, including the large scale epidemiological study conducted by the National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH), an ICMR Institute.

Sudheeran has said that it is indeed ironical that the health reports of endosulfan are

Sudheeran said that he was shocked to see that the Committee was being headed by Dr C D Mayee, who had headed a similar committee in 2004

being judged by Committees headed by agricultural experts. The Dr O P Dubey Committee was also highly subject to conflict of interest as it had as its members two of the endosulfan manufacturers and also it had three members giving dissent notes.

The last C D Mayee Committee simply accepted the tainted Committee report of Dr O P Dubey. The Dr C D Mayee Committee which arrived at its conclusions without even visiting the villages in Kasaragod, have also been clearly rejected by the community in Kasaragod.

"I wish to reiterate that as far as the suffering people of Kasaragod is concerned, appointing one more Committee to study the issue is adding insult to injury. Added to that is the fact that the Committee appointed has the same person with conflict of interest heading it. I request you to desist from this move, withdraw the committee and take steps to ban endosulfan," Sudheeran said.

Ban Endosulfan: Veerendrakumar

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Special Correspondent

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Court asks Centre to file affidavit

On State's demand for Endosulfan ban

Special Correspondent

KOCHI: A Division Bench of the Kerala High Court on Thursday directed the Central government to file an affidavit explaining the steps taken on the demand of the State government for a total ban on the use of Endosulfan in the country.

The Bench comprising Chief Justice J. Chelameswar and Justice P.R. Ramachandra Menon issued the directive on a writ petition by T.Asaif Ali, president, Indian Lawyers' Congress, seeking to constitute a special tribunal for identifying Endosulfan victims in Kasaragod district and awarding compensation to them came up for hearing.

The court also directed that the manufacturers of Endosulfan be implicated as a respondent in the case.

State's contention

In an affidavit, the State government had said that the use of Endosulfan had been banned or phased out from all countries, including Brazil and the U.S. A review meeting of the Stockholm convention held recently in Geneva con-

The government said studies had shown that Endosulfan was extremely toxic in nature.

From 'neighbours'

Though the use of Endosulfan was banned in the State by a Central government notification, there was a possibility of the pesticide being used in the State after it was brought from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka where it had not been banned.

The government was seriously considering various options for compensating the victims of Endosulfan in the State. As the matter involved policy decision, it had to be taken at the highest level after serious discussion, the affidavit said.

Plea for tribunal

The petitioner said the Plantation Corporation of Kerala and the State government were not making any effort to identify the victims or their relatives and pay them compensation.

It was, therefore, essential to constitute a tribunal on the lines of special tribunals for Munnar land disputes and victims of the pollution caused by the Coca-Cola

Sudheeran writes to Manmohan

'India must correct its position'

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Congress leader V.M. Sudheeran, who is actively campaigning for a ban on Endosulfan in the State, has sought Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's intervention to get India correct its position at the Stockholm Convention and support the move for a global ban on the pesticide.

Mr. Sudheeran wrote to the Prime Minister on Thursday, urging the Central government to ban the manufacture, sale and use of Endosulfan, besides announcing a special package for the victims of the pesticide in Kasaragod under a joint programme of the Centre and the State government.

Mr. Sudheeran wanted the government to include provisions in the Pesticides Management Bill, 2008 to empower State governments to ban pesticides unsuitable in their respective areas.

He suggested the establishment of a permanent tribunal with the authority to decide on claims of compensation and rehabilitation of victims of pesticide contamination under the proposed Bill, which was now before Parli-

Mr. Sudheeran expressed his concern at reports that the Indian delegation to the Stockholm Convention had toed the pesticide industry's line.

Varied views

He pointed out the divergent perceptions of various Central Ministries which viewed the impact of the pesticide from the agriculture viewpoint and not from that of the health of the people.

He highlighted the contradictory position that the Agriculture Ministry had taken overlooking the research studies conducted by the National Institute of Occupational Health as authorised by the Indian Council of Medical Research following a direction from the National Human Rights Commission.

With regard to the Pesticide Management Bill, Mr. Sudheeran said the proposed legislation addressed the issue of spurious pesticides, but not the elimination or phasing out those pesticides that had high toxicity.

Since agriculture was a State subject, empowering the State government to regulate pesticide use was a matter of administrative logic, he

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എൻഡോ സൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണം

വർക്കല: ജനങ്ങളുടെ ആരോഗ്യത്തിനും പരിസ്ഥിതിക്കും പ്രകൃതിക്കും തീരാത്ത ദുരന്തങ്ങൾ സമ്മാനിക്കുന്ന എൻഡോ സൾഫാന്റെ ഉപയോഗവും ഉൽപ്പാദനവും വിത്തരണവും പൂർണ്ണമായും നിരോധിക്കണമെന്ന് ഓൾ കേരള കാളിഫൈഡ് ഹെൽത്ത് ഇൻസ്പെക്ടേഴ്സ് അസോസിയേഷൻ ജില്ലാ കമ്മിറ്റിയോഗം ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു.

ഈ ആവശ്യം ഉന്നയിച്ച് മൂവായിരത്തോളം രോഗപ്രതിരോധ വിഭാഗം ജീവനക്കാരുടെ ഒപ്പുകൾ ശേഖരിച്ച് കേന്ദ്ര പരിസ്ഥിതി മന്ത്രാലയത്തിന് നൽകാനും യോഗം തീരുമാനിച്ചു.

ജില്ലാ പ്രസിഡൻ്റ് കെ.ആർ.ഗോപകുമാറിന്റെ അധ്യക്ഷതയിൽ ചേർന്ന യോഗം സംസ്ഥാന സെക്രട്ടറി ബി.എസ്.അനിൽകുമാർ ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു.

Ban endosulfan:

Kozhikode (Kerala), Nov.14: All Kerala Qualified Health Inspectors Association complete ban on endosulfan.

13/11/10 MB

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ: ഡി.വൈ.എഫ്.ഐ. സന്ദേശയാത്ര നടത്തും

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: എൻഡോസൾഫാനെതിരെ ഡി.വൈ.എഫ്.ഐ. കാസർകോട് ജില്ലയിൽ ഡിസംബർ 1, 2, 3 തീയതികളിലായി അതിജീവന സന്ദേശയാത്ര നടത്തുമെന്ന് സംസ്ഥാന സെക്രട്ടറി ടി.വി.രാജേഷ് പത്രസമ്മേളനത്തിൽ പറഞ്ഞു. 'ബാൻ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ, സേവ് ലൈഫ്' എന്ന മുദ്രാവാക്യമുയർത്തി പ്രക്ഷോഭങ്ങൾ സംഘടിപ്പിക്കുമെന്നും അദ്ദേഹം പറഞ്ഞു. എൻമകജെ പഞ്ചായത്തിലെ സ്വർഗ്ഗയിൽ നിന്നാരംഭിക്കുന്ന ജാഥ ഡിസംബർ 3ന് കാസർകോട് സമാപിക്കും. എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ബാധിതരെ പങ്കെടുപ്പിച്ച് 'എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ അതിജീവന ഐക്യദാർഢ്യസംഗമം' സംഘടിപ്പിക്കും. ടി.വി.രാജേഷാണ് അതിജീവന സന്ദേശയാത്ര നയിക്കുന്നത്.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ പേരുമാറ്റി ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്ന ഇടുക്കിയിലും പാലക്കാട്ടും ബഹുജന പ്രതിഷേധം ഉയർത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുവരുമെന്ന് ടി.വി.രാജേഷ് പറഞ്ഞു. 16ന് ഇടുക്കിയിലെ കട്ടപ്പനയിലും 19ന് പാലക്കാട്ടെ മുതലമടയിലും ബഹുജന കൺവെൻഷൻ ചേരും. ഭൂരിതം വിതച്ച കാസർകോട് ജില്ലയിൽ 22ന് 12 മൂതൽ 15 മിനിട്ടുനേരം നിശ്ചലസമരം സംഘടിപ്പിക്കും. ജില്ലയിലെ കേന്ദ്ര-സംസ്ഥാന ഓഫീസുകൾ, സ്കാർവ്വ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾ, വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾ, വാഹനങ്ങൾ എന്നിവ നിശ്ചലമാക്കിക്കൊണ്ടായിരിക്കും പ്രതീകാത്മക സമരം നടത്തുക.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഉൽപ്പാദനം നിർത്തിവയ്ക്കണമെന്നാവശ്യപ്പെട്ട് ഏലൂരിലെ എച്ച്.ഐ.എൽ. യൂണിറ്റിലേക്ക് നവംബർ 22ന് യുവജന മാർച്ച് സംഘടിപ്പിക്കുമെന്നും ഡി.വൈ.എഫ്.ഐ. സംസ്ഥാന സെക്രട്ടറി ടി.വി.രാജേഷ് അറിയിച്ചു.

DYFI conducts awareness yatra

Thiruvananthapuram(Kerala),Nov.13: Rising the slogan "Ban Endosulfan Save Life" DYFI plans to conduct awareness yatra in Kasarkode district from 1st to 3rd December. The yatra will began from Enmakaje panchayath on 1st December and conclude at Kazarkode on 3rd December.

Cashew industry seeks Endosulfan ban

Entrepreneurs wary of the impact of the pesticide on export prospects

Ignatius Pereira

KOLLAM: The Kollam-based cashew processing industry has sought a ban on Endosulfan.

Cashew entrepreneurs said the industry did not need raw nuts from plantations that use Endosulfan. The use of such nuts would only serve to harm the industry, especially in the export markets.

They said the global production of raw cashew touched 20 lakh tonnes. India produces about 6 lakh tonnes of raw nuts. The country processes more than 12 lakh tonnes of raw cashew out of which about 6.5 lakh tonnes to 7 lakh tonnes were processed by the Kollam-based industries and the bulk of these were imported.

Compared to this huge requirement, the nuts produced from the plantations in India that apply Endosulfan were a negligible quantity which the industry did not require. For that matter, the industry was averse to process nuts from plantations that used not only Endosulfan but also any other chemical pesticide. The industry sought to ban the use of Endosulfan and other chemical pesticides not only from plantations close to human habitations like Kasargod but also in plantations that were far away from human dwellings, they said.

Organic products

At a time when the global markets were insisting on organic agro-based products, processing nuts grown

through the use of toxic chemical pesticides would only serve to harm exports from here, they said. In fact, the major quantity of the raw nut requirement for Kollam was met through imports, mainly from African countries.

Certification

When it came to export, a pesticide-free certificate had to accompany the consignment. The industry had to even certify that at no stage of the processing had bleaching powder mixed water been used.

The developed importing countries had the chemical analysis system to detect any chemical presence beyond tolerance level. If any consignment was found to have

chemicals beyond prescribed levels, they were simply rejected and that meant huge loss for the industry, they said.

When this was the outlook of the industry, there was absolutely no need for cashew plantations to use Endosulfan. The use of this pesticide may serve to increase production for farmers but at the cost of human health.

So if cashew plantations were using such pesticides, the clear message from the processing industry was that "if all that is for the cashew industry, it should be stopped for the industry cannot gamble with such a raw material," industrialists said.

See also Page 4

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ പൂർണ്ണമായി നിരോധിക്കണം: ലീഗ്

സ്വന്തം ലേഖകൻ

കോഴിക്കോട്: ഏറെ ദൂരിതം വിതച്ച എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ കീടനാശിനി പൂർണ്ണമായി നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നും മുസ്ലിം ലീഗ് കേന്ദ്ര സംസ്ഥാന സർക്കുലറുകളാൽ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. എൻഡോസൾഫാന്റെ ഉപയോഗം മൂലം സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ പല ഭാഗങ്ങളിലും ജനം ദുരിതം അനുഭവിക്കുകയാണ്. ഇടുക്കി, പാലക്കാട്,

കാസർഗോട് ജില്ലകളിൽ ഇതിന്റെ പ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ വ്യാപകമാണ്. ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ ഇനിയും കൂടുതൽ പഠനങ്ങളുടെ ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നും പാർട്ടി സംസ്ഥാന പ്രവർത്തക സമിതി അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടു.

പാർട്ടിയിൽ ഒരാൾക്ക് ഒരു പദവി എന്ന നയം നടപ്പാക്കാനും തീരുമാനിച്ചു. തദ്ദേശഭരണ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളിലേക്കും നിരത്തുകളിലേക്കും പാർട്ടിയിലെ സ്ഥാനങ്ങൾ വഹിക്കുന്നവരാണെങ്കിൽ ജനുവരി ഒന്നിനകം ഏതെങ്കിലും മൊന്നും രാജിവയ്ക്കണം. അടുത്ത നിയമസഭാ തിരഞ്ഞെടുപ്പിൽ എംഎൽഎമാർ ആകുന്നവർക്കും

ഈ നിയമം ബാധകമായിരിക്കും. നിലവിൽ എംപിമാരായവർക്കും തൽക്കാലം ഇതു ബാധകമാക്കേണ്ടതില്ല എന്നും തീരുമാനിച്ചു.

തദ്ദേശ തിരഞ്ഞെടുപ്പിൽ ഉണ്ടായ ദയനീയ പരാജയം മൂലം സിപിഎം അക്രമം അഴിച്ചുവിടുകയാണ്. നാടാപുരത്തും മഞ്ചേരിയിലും സിപിഎം അക്രമം നടത്തിയ ശേഷം രാഷ്ട്രീയ മുതലെടുപ്പിനു ശ്രമിക്കുകയായിരുന്നു. സവനം പാർട്ടിയിലെ വിഭാഗീയത മറിച്ചുവയ്ക്കാൻ മുസ്ലിം ലീഗിനെയും യുഡിഎഫിനെയും കുറ്റപ്പെടുത്തുകയാണ്.

സംസ്ഥാന പ്രസിഡന്റ് ഹൈദരലി ശിഹാബ് തങ്ങൾ അധ്യക്ഷത വഹിച്ചു.

അഖിലേന്ത്യാ പ്രസിഡന്റ് ഇ.അഹമ്മദ് ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു. പി.കെ.കുഞ്ഞാലിക്കുട്ടി, എം.പി.അബ്ദുസമദ് സമദാനി, ഇ.ടി.മുഹമ്മദ് ബഷീർ എം.പി, ടി.എ.അഹമ്മദ് കബീർ, കെ.എൻ.എ.ഖാദർ, കെ.പി.എ. മജീദ്, ടി.പി.എം.സാഹിർ, ഹമീദ് ലി ഷംനാദ് എന്നിവർ പ്രസംഗിച്ചു.

Ban endosulfan: Muslim League

Kozhikode (Kerala), Nov.14: Indian Union Muslim League urged central and state government for complete ban on endosulfan. "There is no need for fresh studies", observed party's state working committee. The meeting was inaugurated by E Ahamed, Union Minister of State of External Affairs. (Malayalammanorama)

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End use of Endosulfan: DYFI

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: DYFI secretary T.V. Rajesh has asked the government to put an immediate end to use of Endosulfan in the plantations in Idukki.

In a statement here on Monday, Mr. Rajesh alleged that Endosulfan was being

used in the State under other brand names even after the State government banned it. Available information suggested that Endosulfan was being brought into the State by farmers from Kambam in Tamil Nadu. **Special Correspondent**

2010 നവംബർ 13 ശനി

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്ന് ഐഎംഎ

സ്വന്തം ലേഖകൻ

കൊച്ചി: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്ന് ഇന്ത്യൻ മെഡിക്കൽ അസോസിയേഷൻ (ഐഎംഎ) കേരളാഖടകം.

ഇതുസംബന്ധിച്ച് വർഷങ്ങൾക്കു മുൻപുതന്നെ ഡോ.പി.വി. രാമചന്ദ്രന്റെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ പഠന നടത്തി എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഉൾപ്പെടെയുള്ള കീടനാശിനികൾ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നു സംഘടന ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടതാണെന്ന് ഐഎംഎ സംസ്ഥാന പ്രസിഡന്റ് ഡോ. ഗ്രീഷ്മാർ വാസുദേവനും സംസ്ഥാന സെക്രട്ടറി ഡോ.ജെ. രാജഗോപാലൻ നായരും അറിയിച്ചു.

പെപ്സിവുംമാതും ഡാബറുമായും ദേശീയതലത്തിൽ ഐഎംഎ കരാറാപ്പിട്ടതിനോടു സംസ്ഥാനാലയകം വിരോധിച്ച് രേഖപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ, ഇതിന്റെ പേരിൽ ഇന്ത്യൻ മെഡിക്കൽ കൗൺസിൽ ഐഎംഎ വർക്കിങ് കമ്മിറ്റിക്കെതിരെ നടപടി

സുധീരനോട് യോജിപ്പിച്ച് കൊടിക്കുന്നിൽ

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ പ്രശ്നത്തിൽ വി.എം. സുധീരന്റെ നിലപാടിനോടാണ് കേരളത്തിൽ നിന്നുള്ള യുഡിഎഫ് എംപിമാർക്കു യോജിപ്പുണ്ട് എന്തെസിസി സെക്രട്ടറി കൊടിക്കുന്നിൽ സുരേഷ് എം.പി. മന്ത്രി കെ.വി. തോമസ് നടത്തിയ പ്രസ്താവനയോടുള്ള വിരോധിച്ച് അദ്ദേഹത്തെ അറിയിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നാവശ്യപ്പെട്ട് എംപിമാർ പ്രധാനമന്ത്രിയ്ക്കു നിവേദനം നൽകും. പൂർ

ന്ത്യേജൻകോർപ്പറേഷന്റെതോട്ടങ്ങളിൽ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഉപയോഗിക്കാൻ തുടങ്ങിയതു സിപിഐ കൃഷി വകുപ്പു കൈകാര്യം ചെയ്യുമ്പോഴാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ടാണ് അവർ ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ മനസ്സാലിക്കുന്നത്.

അട്ടപ്പാടിയിൽ ആദിവാസികളും മികയ്ക്കുറാൻ സുസ്ലോൺ കമ്പനിക്കു മരണാനുവാദം നൽകിയ സിപിഎം, വയനാട്ടിൽ ആദിവാസികൾക്കു വേണ്ടി ഭൂമി കയ്യേറുന്നതു വിരോധാഭാസമാണ്. ആദിവാസികൾക്കു ഭൂമി വിതര

ണം ചെയ്യുന്നതിൽ പരാജയപ്പെട്ട എൽഡിഎഫ് സർക്കാരിന് ആദിവാസികളുടെ കൈവശമുള്ള ഭൂമിക്കു പോലും നഷ്ടപ്പെടണം നൽകാൻ കഴിയുന്നില്ല. രവന്ദ്ര, പട്ടികവർഗ്ഗ വകുപ്പു മന്ത്രിമാർ അവരുടെ ഉത്തരവാദിത്തം നിർവഹിക്കുന്നതിൽ പരാജയപ്പെട്ടു. എയർഇന്ത്യ കേരളത്തോടു കാണിക്കുന്ന അവഗണനയ്ക്കെതിരെ യുഡിഎഫ് എംപിമാർ കർശന നിലപാടു സ്വീകരിക്കുമെന്നു കൊടിക്കുന്നിൽ പറഞ്ഞു.

യെടുത്താൽ സംസ്ഥാനത്തുനിന്നുള്ള 13 സമിതി അംഗങ്ങൾക്കൊപ്പം ഐഎംഎ കേരളാഖടകം നിലയുറപ്പിക്കുമെന്നും അവർ വ്യക്തമാക്കി.

വ്യാജ ഡോക്ടർമാർക്കെതിരെ സർക്കാർ നടപടിമെടുക്കുക,

പരാമെഡിക്കൽ പരീക്ഷ ജയിച്ചവർ ഡോക്ടർ എന്ന ബോർഡ് വയ്ക്കുന്നതു വിലക്കുക തുടങ്ങിയ ആവശ്യങ്ങളും ഐഎംഎ ഉന്നയിച്ചു. എംബിബിഎസ് കഴിഞ്ഞവർ ആയുർവേദക്കാരെ പഠിപ്പിക്കുന്നതുപോലുള്ള മികവേറ്റ

തി ഐഎംഎ അംഗീകരിക്കില്ല അടിസ്ഥാന സൗകര്യങ്ങളില്ലാത്തതിനാലാണു ഗ്രാമീണസേവനത്തിനു ഡോക്ടർമാരെ കിട്ടാത്തതെന്നു തിരുവനന്തപുരം പ്രസിഡന്റ് ഡോ.ജി. വിജയകുമാർ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടു.

Ban endosulfan: IMA

Kozhikode (Kerala), Nov.14: Indian Medical Association demanded complete ban on endosulfan. A study conducted by IMA a few years before had recommended government to ban the pesticide.

2010 November 14

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ: 24നു ബദിയടുകയിൽ യുത്ത് ലീഗ് പ്രതിരോധം

കൊഴിക്കോട്: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ പൂർണ്ണമായും നിരോധിക്കുക, മാരകമായ കീടനാശിനി ഉപയോഗം മുഖം ദുരിതമനുഭവിക്കുന്നവർക്കു നഷ്ടപരിഹാരം ഉടൻ നൽകുക എന്നീ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ ഉന്നയിച്ച് 24നു രണ്ടു മണിക്ക് മുസ്ലിം യുത്ത് ലീഗിന്റെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ കാസർഗോട് ജില്ലയിലെ ബദിയടുകയിൽ യുവജന പ്രതിരോധം തീർക്കും.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ പൊതുവെ

രംഗത്തെ നായകർ പ്രതിരോധത്തിൽ പങ്കാളികളാകും. എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഉപയോഗത്തിനു സാധ്യതയും അംഗീകാരവും നേടിയെടുക്കാൻ ചില കേന്ദ്രങ്ങൾ നടത്തുന്ന ശ്രമം പൊതുവെ സ്വീകാര്യമല്ലെന്നും വെല്ലുവിളിയോടെയും അത്തരക്കാരുടെ ഒറ്റപ്പെടുത്തണമെന്നും സംസ്ഥാന പ്രസിഡന്റ് കെ.എം. ഷാജി, ജന. സെക്രട്ടറി എൻ. ഷംസുദ്ദീൻ എന്നിവർ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു.

Youth league demands ban on endosulfan

Kozikode(Kerala),Nov.14: Youth league(youth wing of Indian Union Muslim League) has planned a march at Badiyaduka in Kazharkod district demanding ban on endosulfan and compensation for pesticide victims. (Malayala Manorama)



VOICE OF PROTEST: Sukumar Azhikode administering the anti-endosulfan pledge at a gathering of Gandhians organised by Sarvodaya Mandalam at Gandhi Bhavan in Kochi on Sunday

15/11/10 New Indian Express

Ravi promises to brief PM on endosulfan issue

Kochi : Union Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs Vayalar Ravi too joined the endosulfan controversy on Sunday stating that he would brief the Prime Minister about the people's concern on the issue. Ravi opined that the ban on endosulfan should continue. Ravi told reporters here on Sunday that since studying the outcome of endosulfan would take some more time, there is no need to remove the existing ban on the pesticide. He said that Union Minister K V Thomas might have opined about it without knowing much about the issue. "If endosulfan is being brought to the state from other states, the state government should take strict action to stop it."

Meanwhile, senior Congress leader A C Jose said it is not an inquiry but a complete ban is needed on the endosulfan issue. Jose said that he does not agree with what Union Minister K V Thomas said regarding this issue *ENS

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ സമിതി ഒന്നുമതി: മായി വേണ്ട: കെപിസിസി

കേരളം മനോരമ
2010 നവംബർ 16
വെള്ളി

ന്യൂഡൽഹി: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഉപയോഗത്തിന്റെ നോൺ അൾ പെർമിറ്റഡ് ആയി വിലയിരുത്തണമെന്നും തീരുമാനിച്ചു. കെപിസിസി നിലവിൽ നിലവിലുള്ള അയുക്ടയുടെ സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് പരിശോധിക്കുകയും അതിന്റെ അടിസ്ഥാനത്തിൽ തീരുമാനമെടുക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുമെന്ന് കെപിസിസി കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിനോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. ഈ ആവശ്യത്തിന് പ്രധാനമന്ത്രിയോടും സാമ്പത്തിക മന്ത്രിയോടും സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് നൽകുന്നതിനുള്ള അനുമതിയും എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നതിൽ കേന്ദ്രത്തിന് എക്കാലത്തെയും അനുമതി നൽകരുത്.

നോൺ പെർമിറ്റഡ് ആയി തീരുമാനിക്കണമെന്നും കെപിസിസി കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിനോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. ഈ ആവശ്യത്തിന് പ്രധാനമന്ത്രിയോടും സാമ്പത്തിക മന്ത്രിയോടും സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് നൽകുന്നതിനുള്ള അനുമതിയും എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നതിൽ കേന്ദ്രത്തിന് എക്കാലത്തെയും അനുമതി നൽകരുത്.

കേരളം നോൺ പെർമിറ്റഡ് ആയി തീരുമാനിക്കണമെന്നും കെപിസിസി കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിനോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. ഈ ആവശ്യത്തിന് പ്രധാനമന്ത്രിയോടും സാമ്പത്തിക മന്ത്രിയോടും സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് നൽകുന്നതിനുള്ള അനുമതിയും എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നതിൽ കേന്ദ്രത്തിന് എക്കാലത്തെയും അനുമതി നൽകരുത്.

കേരളം നോൺ പെർമിറ്റഡ് ആയി തീരുമാനിക്കണമെന്നും കെപിസിസി കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിനോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. ഈ ആവശ്യത്തിന് പ്രധാനമന്ത്രിയോടും സാമ്പത്തിക മന്ത്രിയോടും സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് നൽകുന്നതിനുള്ള അനുമതിയും എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നതിൽ കേന്ദ്രത്തിന് എക്കാലത്തെയും അനുമതി നൽകരുത്.

Endosulfan: Single committee enough: KPCC

Kozhikode (Kerala), Nov.16: KPCC asked central government to appoint a single committee. It also asked the government not to appoint CD Mayi as the president of the committee. Kerala is unanimous on endosulfan issue it emphasised.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധനം തുടരുമെന്ന് ഇൻഡസ്ട്രിയൽ റിലേഷൻസ് ബോർഡ് യോഗം

കോഴിക്കോട്: സാമ്പത്തിക മന്ത്രിയുടെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ നടന്ന യോഗത്തിൽ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധനം തുടരുമെന്ന് തീരുമാനിച്ചു. കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിനോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. ഈ ആവശ്യത്തിന് പ്രധാനമന്ത്രിയോടും സാമ്പത്തിക മന്ത്രിയോടും സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് നൽകുന്നതിനുള്ള അനുമതിയും എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നതിൽ കേന്ദ്രത്തിന് എക്കാലത്തെയും അനുമതി നൽകരുത്.

കോഴിക്കോട്: സാമ്പത്തിക മന്ത്രിയുടെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ നടന്ന യോഗത്തിൽ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധനം തുടരുമെന്ന് തീരുമാനിച്ചു. കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിനോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. ഈ ആവശ്യത്തിന് പ്രധാനമന്ത്രിയോടും സാമ്പത്തിക മന്ത്രിയോടും സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് നൽകുന്നതിനുള്ള അനുമതിയും എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നതിൽ കേന്ദ്രത്തിന് എക്കാലത്തെയും അനുമതി നൽകരുത്.

കോഴിക്കോട്: സാമ്പത്തിക മന്ത്രിയുടെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ നടന്ന യോഗത്തിൽ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധനം തുടരുമെന്ന് തീരുമാനിച്ചു. കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിനോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. ഈ ആവശ്യത്തിന് പ്രധാനമന്ത്രിയോടും സാമ്പത്തിക മന്ത്രിയോടും സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് നൽകുന്നതിനുള്ള അനുമതിയും എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നതിൽ കേന്ദ്രത്തിന് എക്കാലത്തെയും അനുമതി നൽകരുത്.

കോഴിക്കോട്: സാമ്പത്തിക മന്ത്രിയുടെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ നടന്ന യോഗത്തിൽ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധനം തുടരുമെന്ന് തീരുമാനിച്ചു. കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിനോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. ഈ ആവശ്യത്തിന് പ്രധാനമന്ത്രിയോടും സാമ്പത്തിക മന്ത്രിയോടും സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് നൽകുന്നതിനുള്ള അനുമതിയും എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നതിൽ കേന്ദ്രത്തിന് എക്കാലത്തെയും അനുമതി നൽകരുത്.

Ban on Endosulfan will continue: I R B

Kozhikode (Kerala), Nov.16: Industrial Relation Board Meeting says ban on endosulfan should continue.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണം - സി.പി.ഐ.

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: മാരകരോഗങ്ങൾക്കും മരണത്തിനും കാരണമായ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കാൻ കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാർ തയ്യാറാകണമെന്ന് സി.പി.ഐ. സംസ്ഥാന കൗൺസിൽ കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിനോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. മാരക കീടനാശിനികളുടെ പട്ടികയിൽപ്പെടുത്തി നിരവധി രാജ്യങ്ങൾ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇതിനോട് യോജിക്കാതെ ലോക വേദികളിൽ ഇന്ത്യ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ അനുകൂല നിലപാട് സ്വീകരിക്കുകയായിരുന്നു.

കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിനോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. മാരക കീടനാശിനികളുടെ പട്ടികയിൽപ്പെടുത്തി നിരവധി രാജ്യങ്ങൾ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇതിനോട് യോജിക്കാതെ ലോക വേദികളിൽ ഇന്ത്യ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ അനുകൂല നിലപാട് സ്വീകരിക്കുകയായിരുന്നു.

Ban Endosulfan: CPI

Thiruvananthapuram(Kerala), Nov.16: CPI state council urged central government for complete ban on endosulfan. "Endosulfan, which is listed in hazardous pesticide list, has been banned in many of the countries. India is the only country opposing the ban. The government should correct its stand immediately", CPI observed. (Mathrubhumi)



Protestors demanding a ban on endosulfan taking out a march to the AG's Office in Thiruvananthapuram on Tuesday

'Ban endosulfan'



VARIOUS organisations which took out a march to the AG's Office on Tuesday under the banner of Endosulfan Virudha Samithi demanded a blanket ban on endosulfan and the proper rehabilitation of its victims. CPI district secretary P Ramachandran Nair flagged off the march from VJT Hall. The

organisations asked the Government to ban the pesticide instead of embarking upon further studies. Plachimada Solidarity Committee convener R Ajayan, poets P K Gopi and Kariyavattom Sivakantan Nair, Kerala Swatantra Matsya Thozhilali Federation president T Peter, AIYF district secretary Kaladi Jayachandran and Sthree Vedi dis-

trict convener Amala John were among those present. Activists representing PUCL, SUCI and Thanal also participated in the march. Film shows and photo exhibitions on endosulfan will be held at the Gandhi Park in the coming days.

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എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ വിരുദ്ധ കമ്പയിൻ സംഘടിപ്പിക്കും- എ.ഐ.എസ്.എഫ്

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്ന് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ട് നവംബർ 18ന് കമ്പസുകളിൽ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ വിരുദ്ധ കമ്പയിൻ സംഘടിപ്പിക്കുമെന്ന് എ.ഐ.എസ്.എഫ് സംസ്ഥാന സെക്രട്ടറി യദ്ദ അറിയിച്ചു.

കാമ്പസുകളിൽ വിവിധ പരിപാടികൾ സംഘടിപ്പിക്കും. കോസർകോട് ജില്ല കേന്ദ്രീകരിച്ച് വിപുലമായ പ്രതിഷേധ പരിപാടികൾക്ക് എ.ഐ.എസ്.എഫ് നേതൃത്വം നൽകും. കേന്ദ്ര പരിസ്ഥിതി മന്ത്രി ജയറാം രമേഷിന് ഒരു ലക്ഷം കത്തുകളയക്കുമെന്ന് സംസ്ഥാന പ്രസിഡൻ്റ് ടി. പ്രദീപ് കുമാറും സെക്രട്ടറി ടി.ടി. ജിൻ മോനും അറിയിച്ചു.

AISF for anti endosulfan campaign

Thiruvananthapuram(Kerala),Nov.16: AISF will plan anti endosulfan campaign with mass student participation. Various programmes are planned at campuses. One lakh letters will be sent to the Prime Minister.

17-11-10 TH

Campaign against Endosulfan begins

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Congress leader V.M. Sudheeran has urged the Union Agriculture Ministry to reconsider its stand on Endosulfan and endorse a ban on the pesticide.

Inaugurating a discussion here on Tuesday to form a public front against the use of Endosulfan, he said the move by the Ministry to set up a new committee to study the impact of the pesticide on public health and the environment was irrelevant.

The Ministry's argument that there was no evidence to link Endosulfan with the deaths and health disorders faced by the people exposed to the pesticide had led to a public outrage, he said.

Several studies, including the one conducted by the National Institute of Occupational Health, had linked the use of Endosulfan to physical deformities and genetic disorders. The move to set up more committees to study the issue would only serve to defer a decision on banning the pesticide, he said.

Mr. Sudheeran called on the Central government to endorse a global ban on Endosulfan at the next review committee meeting of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, scheduled for April 2011.

He said the Indian delegation's stand against the proposed ban at the last conference of the parties to the Stockholm Convention had triggered widespread protests throughout Kerala and other parts of the country.

Pointing out that 73 countries had already banned the pesticide, Mr. Sudheeran flayed the move to institute fresh studies on its impact.

He urged Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan to lead an all-party delegation to Delhi to put pressure on the Centre to correct its position at the Stockholm Convention. He sought a nationwide ban on the pesticide and a crack-down on its illegal use.

Mr. Sudheeran called on the government to announce

• **Sudheeran urges Agriculture Ministry to review stand**

• **Seeks special package for victims**

a special package and set up a tribunal to ensure fair compensation for the victims of Endosulfan and their rehabilitation. He also highlighted the need for provisions in the Pesticides Management Bill to empower State governments to ban pesticides.

Latin Archbishop M. Susai-pakkiam termed the government move to set up a new committee to study the impact of Endosulfan on its victims as a bid to rein in public outrage.

He said it was shameful that the Indian delegation to the Stockholm Convention had failed to endorse the move for a global ban on Endosulfan. He said it was also important to promote organic pesticides as a substitute for their chemical versions.

The Archbishop later inaugurated a signature campaign against Endosulfan.

Poet and activist B. Sugathakumari administered a pledge to the gathering to work against Endosulfan.

The former MPs P. Viswambharan, Thalekunnil Basheer and Pannian Ravindran, Palayam Imam Jame luddin Mankada, working chairman of the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi Dr. N. Radhakrishnan and secretary Prof. V. Ramadas also spoke.

The public gathering was organised as part of the Anti-Endosulfan Campaign launched by the National Service Scheme (NSS), University of Kerala and the Kerala Sarvodaya Mandalam.

The campaign includes two photo exhibitions on November 18 and 22. On December 1, Gandhian organisations will take out a journey from Thiruvananthapuram to Kasargod to visit the Endosulfan victims. On December 8, a protest march will be taken out to the Hindustan Insecticides Factory (HIL) at Eloor Ernakulam, which manufactures Endosulfan.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ: പാർലമെൻ്റ് മാർച്ച് നടത്തും

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്ന് തൃശ്ശൂരിൽ ചേർന്ന ഓൾ കേരള അസോസിയേഷൻ ഓഫ് ദി ഡഫ് (അക്കഡ്) ജനറൽ കൗൺസിൽ യോഗം ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്ന് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ട് ഡിസംബർ 13 ന് പാർലമെൻ്റ് മാർച്ചും ധർണയും സംഘടിപ്പിക്കും. ബധിര-മുക്തർ ഒപ്പിട്ട ഭീമഹരജി രാഷ്ട്രപതിക്ക് സമർപ്പിക്കുന്നതിന് തീരുമാനിച്ചതായും അസോസിയേഷൻ ജനറൽ സെക്രട്ടറി നിസാർ മൊയ് തീൻ അറിയിച്ചു.

AKAD plans parliament march

Thiruvananthapuram(Kerala), Nov.13: Demanding complete ban on endosulfan, the All Kerala Association of Duff will hold a parliament march on 13th December. A mass petition will be submitted to the President of India on the occasion. (Madyamam)

Row goes on, pesticide production too

HIL is the only public sector Endosulfan producer in the country

K.P.M. Basheer

KOCHI: Even as a debate on Endosulfan rages across the State and demands for a ban on its manufacture, sale and use mount, a mid-size Central government-owned factory close to the Periyar river continues to quietly produce the controversial pesticide.

Hindustan Insecticides Limited (HIL) at Udyogamandal, near here, is the only public sector factory that produces Endosulfan in the country. It produces about 1,500 tonnes of Endosulfan (technical) a year and 1,900 kilolitres of liquid Endosulfan under the brand name 'Hildan.' The factory, which has 300-odd employees, has survived pressures from environmental organisations to shut down.

India largest producer

HIL Udyogamandal was set up back in 1957 to manufacture DDT for use in the battle against malaria. Later, in 1980, a plant to manufacture Endosulfan was built. The factory sits close to the Kuzhikandam creek, one of the most chemically contaminated water bodies in Kerala, which is linked to the Periyar.

Endosulfan is considered one of the most toxic pesticides in the world and hence its use in agriculture is banned in several countries. The Environmental Protection Agency of the U.S. is now in the process of totally banning its use in that country. India is said to be the largest producer and user of Endosulfan in the world, with HIL Udyogamandal and two private sector companies located in Gujarat producing roughly 4,500 tonnes a year. India had recently opposed a Stockholm Convention proposal to put Endosulfan on

the list of banned chemicals.

Since Endosulfan produced at Udyogamandal is not sold in Kerala, it is argued, it does not pose a direct health risk in the State. "We haven't marketed Endosulfan in Kerala in the past four or five years," K.K. Dhar, general manager-in-charge of HIL Udyogamandal, told *The Hindu*. The products are mostly sold outside Kerala and abroad. However, in terms of revenue, Endosulfan exports bring in only about Rs.10 crore or Rs.11 crore a year, he says.

'No adverse effects'

Mr. Dhar claims that Endosulfan has not caused any adverse effects on the HIL employees or the people liv-

ing in the neighbourhood. "We carry out medical check-up for our employees every year, but no adverse health impact has been noticed so far," He wonders why Endosulfan is such a big problem in Kerala.

Environmentalists allege that the effluents let out by HIL have contaminated the Periyar.

"This is one company that has contributed to the chemical contamination of the Periyar," alleges Purushan Eloor, research coordinator for the Periyar Malinsekara Virudha Samiti and campaigner against the POPs (persistent organic pollutants). World over, Endosulfan is considered a highly toxic pesticide with enor-

mous health risks.

Mr. Purushan says the Kuzhikandam creek used to contain high doses of Endosulfan because of the effluents let out in the past from the HIL. The Kerala State Pollution Control Board (PCB) had in October 2006 asked HIL to shut down within 48 hours following the detection very high levels of Endosulfan.

The shutdown order was later revoked following HIL's promise to improve its effluents treatment practices and installation of new treatment facilities. Company officials say HIL had taken a lot of steps to improve its effluents treatment investir crores of rupees.

However, in the past, the PCB had issued several show-cause notices to the factory for the leak of hazardous wastes into the water bodies. As recent as last week, the PCB's environmental monitoring centre at Eloor slapped it with a show-cause notice following the discolouration of the water body nearby.

PCB's chief environmental engineer M.S. Mythili told *The Hindu* that the steps taken by HIL for protecting the environment from hazardous wastes are not fully satisfactory.

"The company has not stood up to its zero-effluent-discharge promise," she says.

Withdraw study, says BJP leader

VADODARA: Rajendrasinh Rana, former president of the BJP Gujarat unit, has written a letter to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh demanding the withdrawal of a study on Endosulfan conducted by the Ahmedabad-based National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH). Thousands of workers engaged in manufacturing units of Endosulfan in the country

had taken out a rally in Bhavnagar on Monday and submitted a memorandum, that sought immediate withdrawal of the NIOH report, to the District Collector.

"The NIOH report is flawed. I'm in complete agreement with what the workers have to say on this. In fact, I have already made representation to the Prime Minister and Union

Ministers of Health and Environment demanding immediate withdrawal of the report," the BJP leader said.

The NIOH study titled 'Report of the investigation of unusual illness' allegedly caused by the Endosulfan exposure in Padre village in Kasaragod district had raised questions on the health hazards from the usage of the pesticide. - PTI

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്ന് ഉമ്മൻചാണ്ടിയും ചെന്നിത്തലയും

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ കീടനാശിനി ഉടൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നാവശ്യപ്പെട്ട് പ്രതിപക്ഷനേതാവ് ഉമ്മൻചാണ്ടിയും കെ.പി.സി.സി. പ്രസിഡൻ്റ് രമേശ് ചെന്നിത്തലയും പ്രധാനമന്ത്രിയ്ക്ക് കത്തെഴുതി.

കേരളത്തിൽ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഉപയോഗം നിരവധിപേരുടെ മരണത്തിനും ശാരീരിക വൈകല്യത്തിനും കാരണമായിട്ടുണ്ട്. തോട്ടങ്ങളിൽ ഈ കീടനാശിനി തളിച്ചതുമൂലം നാലായി

രത്തൊളം പേർ മരിച്ചതായാണ് കണക്ക്. ആയിരത്തൊളം പേർ മാതൃകരോഗങ്ങളും അംഗവൈകല്യത്തിനും വിധേയരായി ദുരിതപൂർണ്ണമായ ജീവിതം തള്ളിനിൽക്കുന്നു.

ഒൻപതിനായിരത്തൊളം പേർക്ക് ആരോഗ്യപ്രശ്നങ്ങളുണ്ട്. മണ്ണും ജലവും വിഷമയമായി. ജീവനുതന്നെ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ഭീഷണിയാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട് നിരോധനം അടിയന്തര ആവശ്യമാണെന്ന് കത്തിൽ പറയുന്നു.

Ban endosulfan: Opposition leader and KPCC President write to PM

Thiruvananthapuram(Kerala),Nov.22: Demanding ban on endosulfan Oomen Chandi,opposition leader in Kerala assembly and Ramesh Chennithala, KPCC President,sent letter to the Prime Mminister. "4000 people have died. Nearly 1000 people are physically disabled and nearly 9000 people are affected by endosulfan spraying in Kazarkode", the letter briefs.

20 November 2010 The Hindu

Divergent views on fresh Endosulfan studies

Minister has proposed a study by an inter-disciplinary team

By Mathew

THEERUVANATHURAM: The government of Kerala is taking an ambivalent stand on further studies on the effects of Endosulfan on human population even as Union Minister of State for Environment and Forests Jagan Murali is likely to arrive here this month for discussing the issue.

The Union Minister has proposed a study by an inter-disciplinary team in different parts of the country on the effects of Endosulfan, before the Ministry acts on the demand for a national ban on the pesticide. He had suggested that Kerala could nominate a member to the committee to study the issue when Forest Minister Benoy Varghese took up the issue with the Ministry. Though the State Minister appeared to concur with the suggestion then, he subsequently wrote a letter to Mr. Murali saying that what was needed was a blanket ban on Endosulfan in the country and not committees and studies. Health Minister P. K. Sreenivasan has also voiced similar opinion.

The State government has already commissioned a study under the leadership of the State Council for Science, Technology and Environment. This study, however, would not be looking into cause-effect relationship of Endosulfan on the human population, but is rather directed towards finding out

whether the residues of the pesticide is still present in the environment and its impact.

There are forces working against studies establishing any direct cause-effect relationship as that could bring about liability claims from the victims. Doctors do not certify that the deaths associated with internationally known symptoms of Endosulfan poisoning are caused

by the pesticide. So, the victims find it difficult to prefer compensation claims though aerial spraying of Endosulfan in Kasargod villages were undertaken disregarding several norms and without adequate precautions.

Mayee panel

The Committees appointed by the Central government so far have maintained that no clear link could be established between Endosulfan and the health problems. The State Agriculture Department

had also concurred with this view. The then Director of State Department of Agriculture was a signatory to the C.D. Mayee Committee report in 2005.

However, an expert committee of the State government headed by Additional Director of Health Services P.K. Sivasubramanian had observed in 2003 that circumstances and findings of other relevant studies of various agencies pointed to a causal relationship. "Since the committee could not find out any other

reason that could explain the health hazards in the area, this may be attributed to aerial spraying of Endosulfan," the committee observed.

After the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests mooted another study, the Union Ministry of Agriculture announced a parallel committee under the chairmanship of the very official who had headed the earlier study, Dr. Mayee. This invited widespread protests from non-governmental organisations and politicians belonging

to both the ruling and Opposition fronts in the State.

Dr. Mayee had endorsed a discredited report of a previous committee headed by O. P. Dubey and had failed to take note of several factors that pointed to a link between Endosulfan and the health problems. Mr. Varghese said in his letter to Mr. Murali that appointment of the parallel committee by the Union Agriculture Ministry was highly deplorable. Dr. Mayee had been an ardent advocate of

the pro-Endosulfan lobby, he said.

General aversion

There is a general aversion among the affected population in Kasargod district to fresh studies as studies after studies have chosen to be ambivalent on the cause-effect relationship. They have also brought them no significant relief or compensation. Politicians tend to echo their sentiment. However, it is to be noted that studies so far were mainly confined to Padre village of Kasargod district.

There are several other areas to be studied like parts of Kannur, Malappuram and Palakkad districts of Kerala and some areas of Tamil Nadu close to Palakkad district. Malappuram's tea plantations were among the early users of Endosulfan. Though the tea plantations have since discontinued its use, the cardamom plantations of the district use them despite a ban, by smuggling in the pesticide from Tamil Nadu.

A national ban on Endosulfan need not preclude further studies and the baseline data from Padre village is important in that regard. Endosulfan can be banned in the country now itself on the basis of the precautionary principle. The principle, upheld by the Supreme Court in a case filed by the Vellore Citizens Welfare Forum, lays down that lack of scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation where there are threats of serious and irreversible damage.

Move for panel meets with resistance

C.S. Narayanan Kutty

KASARGOD: The Union government's move to constitute another team of experts to reassess the effect of Endosulfan spraying on human population has met with stiff resistance, with a host of local agencies, including the Anti-Endosulfan Campaign Committee and the Solidarity Youth Movement, asserting that they would not allow another study to be undertaken here 10 years after the use of the pesticide was banned in the cashew estates of the Plantation Corporation of Kerala (PCK).

At a march held here recently denouncing the Centre's stand opposing the ban, the protesters unequivocally stated that

they would not allow the hapless victims of Endosulfan to become "guinea pigs and rats" for taking blood samples.

"We will not allow the expert panel led by C.D. Mayee to carry out yet another survey as Mr. Mayee, as Deputy Director of Agriculture, in his earlier study had given a clean chit to the aerial spraying of the pesticide on PCK land," Narayanan Periya, chairman of the Anti-Endosulfan Campaign Committee, told The Hindu.

The Committee had expressed its strong protest by setting off the report submitted by Mr. Mayee on August 6, 2005. It is strange that the Centre has again appointed him to head the new panel to reassess the situation years after the

pesticide was banned in Kerala, said Mr. Narayanan.

Terming "mere eye-wash" the previous study by the Commission led by agricultural scientist O.P. Dubey to assess the health hazards in the localities where aerial spraying of the pesticide was carried out, general convenor of the Anti-Endosulfan Campaign Committee M.A. Rahman said the study was conducted in favour of pesticide firms.

Credentials questioned

"How can one accept the veracity and credentials of a report endorsed by a panel headed by an agricultural scientist on the serious health hazards caused due to aerial spraying of a pesticide," asked Mr. Rahman, a retired Professor

who has been taking up the case of the victims for the last 11 years.

"It was Dubey himself who had termed 'rubbish' the report submitted by the Ahmedabad-based National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH), which solely attributed the undiagnosed diseases to prolonged aerial spraying of Endosulfan in the cashew estates of the PCK in 11 panchayats of the district," Mr. Rahman said.

According to the list available with the Endosulfan Victims Remedial Cell, headed by district panchayat president with the District Collector as convener, as many as 537 persons have died and around 2,300 people, most below 25 years of age, are leading a virtually bleak life afflicted with mysterious

and undiagnosed illnesses in the 11 panchayat limits where the pesticide was extensively used on PCK land.

However, families of only 178 victims, who succumbed to diseases, including abnormal growth, mental and physical retardation, blindness, cancer and skin disorders, received the Rs.50,000 compensation package of the State Government as many affected persons have not found place in the list of Endosulfan victims due to lack of the part of authorities.

The Solidarity Youth Movement will take out a march to Parliament in New Delhi on November 22 in which the kin of the Endosulfan victims will take part.

Anti-endosulfan activists stage fast



Express News Service
Kasargod, November 22

ANTI-ENDOSULFAN activists observed a fast near the mofussil bus stand here on Monday to draw the attention of the Union Government for a country-wide ban on endosulfan. While the LDF and the BJP

staged separate fast, the DYFI conducted a wheel jam agitation blocking vehicular traffic on the national highway in several places of the district. The anti-endosulfan action committee also staged a fast near the mofussil bus stand.

P Karunkaran MP inaugurated the fast undertaken by the represen-

tatives of the people including MLAs and district panchayat members.

The LDF leaders took out a demonstration near the Chandragiri junction and marched to the venue of the mofussil bus stand. MLAs - Palliprom Balan, C H Kunhambur and K Kunhiraman, district

panchayat president P P Shyamala Devi, CPI leaders E Chandrasekharan and T Krishnan participated in the fast along with the members of the district panchayat.

BJP senior leader O Rajagopal inaugurated the party's fast held near the mofussil bus stand. BJP state president V Muraliedharan presided over the function. BJP leaders P K Krishna Das, Sreekanth and Sanjeeva Shetty addressed the function.

Leela Kumariamamma inaugurated the fast by the anti-endosulfan action committee. Narayanan Periya presided over the function.

Vehicular traffic came to a standstill as the DYFI resorted wheel jam agitation (chakra sthambanam) in several parts of the district.

**കിടനാശിനിബിൾ: അഭിപ്രായസമന്വയം
ഉണ്ടാക്കണം - സി.ആർ. നീലകണ്ഠൻ**

പാലക്കാട്: കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാർ പുതിയ കിടപ്പോടനീലിയിൽ പാശ്ചാത്യ ക്ലോത്തിന്യൂയൂസ് ജനങ്ങളിൽ അഭിപ്രായസമന്വയം നടത്തണമെന്ന് പരിതപ്തിയിൽ പ്രവർത്തകൻ സി.ആർ. നീലകണ്ഠൻ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടു.

[illegible]

എം. സത്യഭാമനാണ് അധ്യക്ഷനായി. സോ. പി.എസ്. പണിക്കർ, വിജയോലി വേണുഗോപാൽ, മുതലായവരാണ്. കെ. അനൂപ് അസിസ്റ്റ്. ചോയ്സ് മായാ ദണ്ണൻ, ആദർശ്വരൻ പങ്കെടുത്തു. പകൽ, കാരാഗൃഹസേവൻ, അ



എന്തുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഫോൺ വിളിക്കുകയോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ സോഷ്യലിസ്റ്റിക് നിയമങ്ങൾ അനുസരിക്കുകയോ ചെയ്യേണ്ടത് എന്ന് ചോദിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു.

புது தாக்கீதர் அணி, கெ. சதுரநாதன், டி. வி. இராஜசேகரன், எஸ். சண்முகம், பி.வி. பிரகாஷ் ராவ், கருணாநிதி, மோனாசி. வி. நா

Dharna demands ban on endosulfan

Palakkad(Kerala), Nov.14: Demand for complete ban on endosulfan has been emerged from the dharna organized by Solidarity Youth Movement in front of head post office, Palakkad. Inaugurating the dharna, environmental activist C R Neelakandan opined that public consciences should be sought on proposed Indian Insecticide Act. (Mathrubhumi)

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണം
-നിർമ്മാണത്തൊഴിലാളി യൂണിയൻ

പാലക്കാട്: രാജ്യത്ത് എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കുക, നിർമാണസാമഗ്രികളുടെ വിലക്കയറ്റം തടയുക തുടങ്ങിയ ആവശ്യങ്ങളുന്നയിച്ച് ജില്ലാ നിർമാണ തെന്താഴിലാളി യൂണിയൻ (എ. ഐ. ടി. യു. സി.) ഹെഡ്ക്വോർട്ടേഴ്സിലെ ഫീസിബിലിറ്റി റിപ്പോർട്ടിൽ ധർമ്മ നൽകി.

സി.പി.ഐ. ജില്ലാസെക്രട്ടറി വിജയൻകുനിയിൽ ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു. പി.ശിവദാസ് അധ്യക്ഷനായി. ഇ.പി.രാധാകൃഷ്ണൻ, ടി. കെ.വാസുദേവൻ, കെ.സി.ജയപാലൻ, കെ.പി.സുരേഷ്റാജ്, കെ.കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി എന്നിവർ പ്രസംഗിച്ചു.

Ban endosulfan: Construction Workers Union

Palakkad(Kerala), Nov.25: Demanding complete ban on endosulfan, Construction Workers Union held a march to head post office in Palakkad. CPI district secretary Vijayan Kunissery inaugurated the march. (Mathrubhumi)

Schoolchildren seek ban on Endosulfan

28/11/10
The Hindu

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The State-wide campaign against the pesticide Endosulfan has received a shot in the arm with over 3,000 students of the Holy Angels Convent Higher Secondary School here pledging their support.

Members of the National Green Corps (NGC) Eco Club in the school shot off e-mails to the Prime Minister and the Union Minister for Environment and Forests, urging the Centre to declare a ban on

Endosulfan. The students presented a memorandum to Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan, Minister for Water Resources N.K. Premachandran and Forest Minister Benoy Viswom. They also met Leader of the Opposition Oommen Chandy and handed over a memorandum, signed by 3,000 students, to be forwarded to the Prime Minister. Eco club coordinator S. Sreelatha and students Arya, Aamina, Yasmin, Jisna, Gowrikalyani, Ashna, R.Athira and Libia were present.

28/11/10 TH Churches join call for Endosulfan ban

Staff Reporter

KOTTAYAM: The Kerala Council of Churches has called for a ban on Endosulfan, including its production.

In a statement here on Saturday, council president Gabriel Mar Gregorios said that studies and commissions had confirmed the grave threat posed by the pesticide on human lives.

"Nearly 70 countries have recognised the dangerous side-effects and have banned the pesticide. The Centre should not hesitate to adopt such a similar policy," Mar Gregorios said.

The entire issue surrounding Endosulfan revealed the negative face of market competition, Mar Gregorios said.

Market policies

A review of market policies should be conducted along with a complete ban on Mar Gregorios said the pesticide, Mar Gregorios said.

The decision to call for a ban was taken at a special meeting of the council.

The Hindu Dec -1 - 2010

Sugathakumari for joint fight against harmful pesticides



IN THE COMPANY OF THE YOUNG: Sugathakumari, poet, interacts with schoolchildren at a function hosted by the Anti-Endosulfan Campaign Committee in Kasaragod on Tuesday.

Staff Reporter

KASARAGOD: Acclaimed litterateur and environmentalist Sugathakumari, in a passionate appeal, has called for an intensified joint agitation to force the authorities to take tangible action against the use of deadly pesticides like Endosulfan to free younger generation from the scourge of serious health hazards.

Despite having stringent rules and regulations, the successive governments and their Agriculture Departments recommended prolonged use of hazardous pesticides leading to destruction of nature and its rich bio-

diversity, the poet said, inaugurating the meeting of environmentalists in the backdrop of serious health hazards caused to hundreds of people in the district.

Blame

"We should blame ourselves for leading to such a dismal situation and which is a shame for the State. Now let the voice of Kerala reach the entire country by forcing a ban on the use of hazardous pesticides such as Endosulfan," she said.

Stressing the need for disbursing adequate compensation to the victims of the pesticide spraying in the

cashew estates of the Plantation Corporation in the district, she said any amount of money would not help to mitigate the suffering of the victims who were destined to bear the brunt right from birth to death, she said.

Against greed

"Today, we are not in a position to have safe drinking water, vegetables and other food items. Why such a situation should be allowed to continue," She asked, stressing the need for an intensified campaign against the greed of certain vested interests at the cost of human life.

"It is better to commit

murder than allowing people to have slow and agonising death," she said at the function hosted by the Anti-Endosulfan Campaign Committee here. Several environmentalists spoke about the hazardous impacts of chemical fertilisers on the occasion.

Quote

Reading out a quote that "pesticides do not know when to stop killing," Sugathakumari sought the cooperation of local body members in giving individual attention to each panchayat from where they got elected by taking up the cause of the affected families.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണം

കണ്ണാടി: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ കീടനാശിനികളുടെ ഉപയോഗം നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നും ദുരിതബാധിതർക്ക് സഹായം നൽകണമെന്നും ഫ്രണ്ട്സ് ക്ലബ്ബ് എക്സിക്യൂട്ടീവ് യോഗം ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. രക്ഷാധികാരി വി. ജയൻ, ബിന്ദു, ബിന്ദുപി, ദിബിൻ എന്നിവർ സംസാരിച്ചു.

Club demands ban on endosulfan

Palakkad(Kerala),Dec.2: Friends club based at Kannadi in Palakkad district demands complete ban on endosulfan. (Mathrubhumi)

Sonia takes note of Sudheeran's letter

Refers letter seeking ban on Endosulfan to Union Ministries

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Congress president Sonia Gandhi has referred a letter from Congress leader V.M. Sudheeran seeking national ban on Endosulfan and relief package for those affected by the pesticide in the State to the Union Ministries of Agriculture, Environment and Forests and Health.

A reply received by Mr. Sudheeran from Ms. Gandhi said that the letter was being sent to the ministries for immediate scrutiny and action. Mr. Sudheeran had demanded that the Centre and the State governments jointly implement a package for relief and rehabilitation and payment of compensation to those affected by the pesticide in Kasargod district.

He had also urged that India change its stand on global ban of Endosulfan at the

• The letter seeks relief for those affected

• DYFI not to allow any study team in Kasargod

Stockholm Convention and support the ban. The State governments should be empowered to ban pesticides that are not suitable for use. Provision for this should be incorporated into the Pesticide Management Bill, now before the Parliament. Besides, the Bill should provide for a permanent tribunal to decide on compensation, rehabilitation and other relief measures for persons harmed by pesticides including Endosulfan, he had demanded.

Staff Reporter writes from Kasargod: The Democratic Youth Federation of India (DYFI) has said that it will not allow any study team in the Endosulfan-affected areas in the district, saying that studies will only serve the in-

terests of pesticide companies.

The DYFI will not allow any Central team in the affected localities, as the soil samples need not necessarily contain the presence of pesticide residues nine years after its aerial spraying was banned and hence, the study will only help to frame a report favourable to the companies, P. Sreeramakrishnan, president of the federation, said here on Saturday.

He was inaugurating a DYFI-sponsored "Livelihood yatra" seeking a comprehensive package and better medical treatment for the victims.

The DYFI's assertion comes when the Centre has appointed a new commission headed by C.D. Mayee, senior

agriculture scientist, whose earlier study denied the suggestion that prolonged aerial spraying of the pesticide on cashew estates had caused serious health hazards in the affected localities in 11 panchayat limits of the district.

DYFI State Secretary T.V. Rajesh, who is leading the two-day yatra in the most-affected localities, sought a comprehensive package and better medical care, saying that the dismal health and financial conditions of the victims' families underscored the need.

The DYFI would compile data on fresh victims, whose names were not on the government list, and submit a report to the Chief Minister.

Sebastian Paul, former MP, will read out a rights declaration of the victims as the yatra concludes at Cherkala, near here, on Sunday evening.

AMRITANANDAMAYI MATH OFFERS TO REHABILITATE ENDOSULFAN VICTIMS

Express News Service
T'Puram, December 9

THE Mata Amritanandamayi Math has offered help for the rehabilitation of the endosulfan victims of Kasargod.

Announcing this at a press conference here on Thursday, Swami Amritaswaroopananda, vice-chairman of the math, said that the math was ready to construct houses for the endosulfan victims if the government provided adequate land for the purpose.

The math was also willing to construct relief centres for the victims.

The math had also decided to provide a monthly pension to the victims. The amount of pension would be decided later, Amritaswaroopananda said.

"What is of concern is whether it is safe to rehabilitate the victims in the very same place where they have been struck

by the tragedy," he said.

The after-effects of the use of endosulfan still persist in the 11 panchayats of the district.

"Hence the math requests the government to provide land other than the affected areas since this will be more safe for the people. For this the math is willing to hold a discussion with the government," he said.

However, he said that if the government was not willing to provide land, the math would have to think of an alternative.

The math was also planning to set up permanent medical centres under the Amrita Medical Institute in the worst-hit areas of Kasargod affected by the endosulfan menace.

"If needed, the research wing of the institute will carry out a fresh study into the after-effects of the endosulfan use in the state," he said.

Sudheeran flags farm seminar

Complaints to Sharad Pawar that Endosulfan manufacturers had sponsored it

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Congress leader V.M. Sudheeran has lashed out at the Union Agriculture Ministry for organising a seminar on agricultural development sponsored by pesticide manufacturing companies that are major producers of Endosulfan.

In a letter to Union Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar, Mr. Sudheeran took exception to the Agriculture Ministry organising a seminar that was used as a venue for promoting Endosulfan at a time when there was a global consensus on the need to ban the pesticide.

Cold irony

"The irony of it all is that when at least 1,000 people have been killed by this chemical and more than 8,000 people seriously impacted in the villages of Kasaragod, the pesticide industry has used the good offices of the Ministry to unleash a propaganda to show that Endosulfan is a safe chemical. How else should one inter-

pret the impunity with which none other than Dr. Dhuri, Vice-president of the Endosulfan company Excel, be given the task of facilitating the discussion on 'Pesticides—truth and false and remedies'."

Insulting statements

He said he was able to gather from media reports that Dr. Dhuri had used the venue not only to showcase Endosulfan as a harmless chemical, but also to make insulting statements about



V.M. Sudheeran says Endosulfan was showcased as harmless.

the social and political activists of Kerala, who were waging a struggle to get the pesticide banned in the larger

interests of human and environmental safety.

"It is also shocking to see that this meeting was inaugurated by the Hon'ble President of India Smt. Pratibha Patil," he said.

"It is painful that the Hon'ble President was presumably misled to inaugurating a seminar that ended up as a cheap propaganda platform for Endosulfan manufacturers."

Brand ambassador

Mr. Sudheeran alleged that

the Union Agriculture Minister was acting like "a brand ambassador" to the Endosulfan industry.

He said the appointment of another committee to study the problems related to Endosulfan was unacceptable. He also wanted India to support the global ban on the pesticide at the Stockholm Convention.

He wanted Mr. Pawar to give up his Ministry's pro-Endosulfan approach and take a positive pro-people position.

KPCC remains firm on Endosulfan ban

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) on Monday said it was firm on its stand on banning Endosulfan and would press the Centre to appoint a new head for the proposed expert committee to study the problems related to the

use of the pesticide.

Addressing a press conference here after a joint meeting of office-bearers of the KPCC and the Congress Legislature Party and the DCC presidents, KPCC president Ramesh Chennithala said Endosulfan had been banned by the previous UDF Ministry headed Oommen

Chandy, but it had been in wide use during the last four years of the LDF rule.

Several allegations had come up against the chairman-designate of the proposed expert committee. "We will put pressure on the Centre to remove him and appoint another person to head the committee," he said.

The KPCC also decided to send a delegation to the Centre to plead for a CBI probe into the lottery scam in the backdrop of the demand made by Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan. The delegation will meet the Prime Minister and the Home Minister in this context.

Sigh of relief as sky closes its floodgates

2,500 people accommodated in 26 relief camps

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Hundreds of families displaced by the heavy floods started trickling back home as storm clouds receded on Thursday.

Large areas across the district were a ravaged look. Efforts were on to pump out accumulated water from various areas. Roads were pockmarked with deep potholes. Standing crops on several acres were destroyed, resulting in heavy loss to farmers.

Revenue Department officials said many houses at Jagathy and Maruthunkunhy in the city were in danger of crumbling after being soaked in flood waters for hours.

As many as 26 relief camps were opened by the district administration in the Thiruvananthapuram, Nedumangad and Neyyattinkara taluks to accommodate 2,500 people belonging to 600 families. There are 17 relief camps in the Thiruvananthapuram taluk, six in Neyyattinkara and three in Nedumangad.

According to estimates prepared by the control room at the District Collectorate here, 32 houses were destroyed and 1,900 damaged, resulting in a loss of Rs.3 crore. About 750 farmers were affected. The crop loss due to flooding had been put at Rs.5 crore.

At several places, rain-soaked furniture, clothes and household gadgets were laid out to dry. Many families had



TOUGH TIME: A scene from the relief camp opened by the district administration at Kalady in the city on Thursday. — PHOTO: S. GOPAKUMAR

to seek the help of workshop technicians to get their cars and two wheelers back on the roads. Several other families had preferred to spend the night near their flooded homes, out of the line of looking.

A medical team led by the District Medical Officer visited the relief camps. Thiruvananthapuram East MLA V. Sivankutty and Revenue officials including the Revenue Divisional Officer and Tahsildar visited the waterlogged areas at Attakulangara, Kariyadom and Kaveri Gardens

and made arrangements for the task force to pump out the water and clear the natural drainage channels.

Mr. Sivankutty said the absence of sufficient equipment like pumps was a major hindrance in clearing waterlogged areas.

"We had to hire pumps from as far as Balaramapuram for the work," he said. He urged the government to take up long-term flood-control measures. Deputy Mayor G. Happpikumar said the Corporation would press earth-moving equipment and le-

bovers into service from Friday to clear the mud from the waterlogged areas. Chairman of the Standing Committee on Works V.S. Padmakumar told The Hindu that the Corporation would start emergency repair on the roads damaged by the flooding on Wednesday.

"The work will start as soon as the waters recede. Apart from the Rs.5 crore due to the Corporation as maintenance grant, we have asked the government to sanction Rs.5 crore as flood relief," he added.

C D Mayee is agent of endosulfan'

Kasaragod, December 9

CPM state secretary Pinarayi Vijayan alleged here on Thursday that Dr C D Mayee, who was appointed by the Central Government to study the environmental impact and health hazards caused by Endosulfan, was an agent of the pesticide company.

Inaugurating a meeting of farmers organised by the Karshaka Sangham at Bovikkanam, the

CPM leader said C D Mayee had given a report favourable to Endosulfan without visiting the affected areas when he was the head of an earlier Commission on the issue.

"Mayee has been once again made the head of another Commission to study about the Endosulfan hazards and this is not done with good intentions," Pinarayi said.

He asked why the Central Government was not banning Endosulfan in the country. **—ENS**

Writers seek ban on Endosulfan

Poets recite their poems on Endosulfan at a dharna in front of AG's office



PROTEST: Purogamana Kala Sahitya Sangham members staging a dharna near the Accountant-General's office in Thiruvananthapuram on Friday demanding a ban on Endosulfan in the country. — PHOTO: S. MAHINSHA

A Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The Purogamana Kala Sahitya Sangham (PuKaSa), a forum of progressive artists and writers, took out a protest march and staged a dharna in front of the Accountant-General's Office here on Friday demanding a nation-wide ban on Endosulfan.

The protest was organised as part of the observance of Human Rights Day. The Sangham members marched

from the VJT Hall to the Accountant-General's Office reciting poems against Endosulfan.

The dharna was inaugurated by filmmaker T. V. Chandran. In his inaugural address, Mr. Chandran narrated his experiences of filming in the Endosulfan-affected village of Swarga in Kasaragod district. "I saw them two years ago and it is disheartening to know that a proper solution has not yet been reached," the

veteran filmmaker said.

Kanayi Kunhiraman, in his address to the gathering, observed that the government was not taking necessary steps and precautions due to the long geographical distance between Kasaragod district and the capital.

'We shall not wait'

Ninan Koshy pointed out that India was the only country that opposed the ban on Endosulfan under the Stockholm Convention. "We

should not wait till a full scientific certainty is reached so as to ban this dangerous pesticide," he said.

He called for an immediate national ban on Endosulfan which has 'unacceptable high risk,' rather than 'never-ending' studies on the effect of the pesticide.

PuKaSa general secretary V.N. Murali delivered the welcome speech. Poets who had gathered for the dharna recited their poems on Endosulfan.

12.12.10 NEW INDIA EXPRESS

INTERNATIONAL TU BODY URGES INDIA TO SUPPORT BAN ON ENDOSULFAN

Express News Service
Thiruvananthapuram, December 16

THE International Union of Foodworkers (IUF), a global federation of trade unions, on Thursday urged India to support the ban on endosulfan.

Briefing the media after a three-day Asia-Pacific regional meeting of agricultural and plantation trade unions here, IUF regional secretary Ma Wei Pin urged India to support the inclusion of endosulfan in the Stockholm Convention. India's reluctance to support the ban is an

"anti-worker position", he said. "We urge India to recognise its role as a global steward. India should ban endosulfan and support the global ban," he said.

He also called for strict laws regulating the use of hazardous pesticides, adding that the onus was on whoever was polluting the environment to clean it up. "There is strong evidence that pesticides are fundamentally negative. There is no point in denying it," IUF-Asia-Pacific Information and Research Officer Jasper Goss said.

"This is an issue fundamentally of

human rights, the right to have a safe working environment. Endosulfan is a toxic chemical, a chemical which has alternatives. It need not be used," he said, adding that workers have an active role in demanding a ban on the use of harmful pesticides.

"A quarter of the income of Indian agricultural workers was being spent on health. So workers have an interest, both in terms of health and economics, to demand safer working environments," Goss said.

Sarojini V Rangan, executive director, Pesticide Action Network (PAN), said that the \$35 billion dollar

pesticide industry was influencing governments from slapping bans on hazardous chemicals.

"The use of personal protective equipment by workers handling pesticides was not practical," she said. "The protective gear were not totally foolproof, the costs were prohibitive and their use in humid, hot climates was not practical," she said.

Kristina Olsson, international secretary of Kommunal, the Swedish Municipal Workers' Union, and Jayakumar C of Thanal also were present.

We urge India to recognise its role as a global steward. India should ban endosulfan and support the global ban

”

18.12.10 TH Writ petition seeks special schools for Endosulfan-hit

Court registry returns Plantation Corporation affidavit

Special Correspondent

KOCHI: A Division Bench of the Kerala High Court on Friday issued notice to the State government on a public interest writ petition seeking to establish special schools for children affected by the use of Endosulfan and provide food and clothing to such children.

The notice was issued by the Bench comprising Justice C.N. Ramachandran Nair and Justice Bhabani Prasad Ray. The petition was filed by N.A. Aboobacker of Kasaragod. He also sought a directive to rehabilitate the Endosulfan victims.

The inaction of the State government in providing food and other facilities to the victims was arbitrary.

In fact, the children in Kasaragod were discriminated against, the petitioner said.

Meanwhile, the High Court Registry has returned the affidavit filed by the Plantation Corporation of Kerala as it noticed some defects in the affidavit.

In the affidavit, the PCK had said the decision to conduct aerial spraying of Endosulfan on the cashew estates

HIGH COURT ROUND-UP

of the Plantation Corporation of Kerala (PCK) was taken on the basis of the recommendations given by the Kerala Agricultural University and other institutions.

As the conventional method failed to prevent the tea mosquito attack, the management of the corporation sought expert advice from the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute and the Kerala Agricultural University. They had advised the corporation to use aerial spraying of specified pesticides, including Endosulfan.

Therefore, the corporation was not liable to pay any compensation to the victims, the affidavit had said.

Documents produced

The Centre on Friday produced, in a sealed cover, before the Kerala High Court the diplomatic correspondences with the Royal Government of Bhutan over the alleged violation of the Lottery Regulation Act and Rules by its lottery promoters in

Kerala. The correspondences were produced in a case relating to the challenging of the Kerala Tax on Paper Lotteries (Amendment) Ordinance. The court had earlier reserved its order in the case.

The Centre said that it could finalise its action on the petition filed by the State government complaining about the irregularities in the conduct of Bhutan Lotteries by the promoters only after exchanging diplomatic correspondences with the representatives of the Royal Government of Bhutan, especially in the light of a treaty entered into with the Government of Bhutan.

Affidavit

In an affidavit, the Centre said the Kerala Tax on Paper Lotteries (Amendment) Ordinance was valid and constitutional.

It added that the State government had the power to enhance the tax on the sale of lotteries.

Nationwide ban on Endosulfan sought

Staff Reporter

KASARAGOD: Seeking a nationwide ban on hazardous pesticides like Endosulfan, pro-Kerala Congress(M) Kerala Karshaka Union has said that it will launch a vigorous campaign to encourage organic farming in the State.

"It appears that people in

Kerala by and large has not understood the gravity of the ramifications of prolonged spraying of Endosulfan in the Plantation Corporation of Kerala's cashew estates in the district," union State president Mathew Stephen said.

Mr. Stephen was addressing a press conference here on Tuesday after heading a

delegation that visited Vani-nagar, where there are a sizeable number of suspected victims of Endosulfan spraying.

"The scenario witnessed in the locality, where as many as 270 affected families are leading a traumatic life, is beyond imagination and the government should enhance the

meagre pension amount of Rs.300 to Rs.3,000. Despite enhancing the existing pension to Rs.1,000, no authorities in the district have received any orders to this effect. Most of the houses do not have connectivity to main roads and the residents are finding it hard to take those affected to hospitals," he said.

THE HINDU • WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2010

'Toxic culture' leading to loss of ecosystem: Vandana Shiva

Biodiversity Congress begins with call to ban Endosulfan

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Noted environmental activist Vandana Shiva has stressed the need for a nation-wide ban on Endosulfan.

Inaugurating the first Indian Biodiversity Congress (IBC) at a function here on Tuesday, she said the ban on the deadly pesticide in Kerala had to be followed up with a nation-wide ban.

Ms. Shiva said replacement of biodiversity with monoculture, emergence of monopolies in the agriculture sector and genetically-engineered products posed a serious threat to India over the next 20 years. The depletion of fossil fuel resources had led to a race to monopolise biomass resources. This, she said, was promoting monoculture across the world.

Linking the rise of monopolies with the increased threat to biodiversity, she said Bt Cotton had become a symbol of slavery in India. "Today, monopolies control 95 per cent of the cotton industry in the country. Farmers are forced to buy genetically-engineered seeds



FOR A SAFE ENVIRONMENT: Environmental activist Vandana Shiva delivering the inaugural address at the first Indian Biodiversity Congress in Thiruvananthapuram on Tuesday. — PHOTO: C. RATHEESH KUMAR

mately driving them to suicide. One cannot imagine the situation if the monopolies turn to other crops like rice and banana."

Ms. Shiva cautioned that a 'toxic culture' was leading to the total loss of ecosystem productivity in India. In Punjab, the number of cancer pa-

use of pesticides. She said the transformation from biodiversity systems to monoculture would lead to less production. "Monoculture of the mind prevents us from seeing the abundance of biodiversity," she said.

B. Sugathakumari, environmental activist. T.M. Ma-

Jayakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor, University of Kerala, R.V. Varma, chairman, Kerala State Biodiversity Board, C.T.S. Nair, executive vice-president, Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, and G.G. Gangadharan, president, Centre for Innovation in Sci-

A marathon against pesticides

Staff Reporter

ALAPPUZHA: After making husbands run carrying their wives at the Shankumugham Beach Thiruvananthapuram, Ecorun India is organising another run, this time a 50 km marathon from Alappuzha to Kottayam, demanding a ban on pesticides.

Titled Ecorun Ultra Marathon, the event will be from Mullackal in Alappuzha to Thirunnakkara in Kottayam via Changanassery from 10.30 a.m. on Saturday. Registration for the event will begin at 9 a.m. at the starting point, which is in front of the Mullackal Temple. Registration

costs Rs.50 for the event, which will be in three categories, viz., for men aged 35 and above; for women aged 30 and above; and for men and women aged 60 and above. There are five prizes in each category with the first prize to be Rs.20,000, the second prize Rs.10,000, the third prize to be Rs.5,000, the

fourth Rs.2,000 and the fifth to be Rs.1,000, according to the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), which is the coordinator for the event. Registration will be possible till 10.25 a.m. and details are available over 0477-2251818 and 93494-63138.

കീടനാശിനി കൈതിരെ പ്രതിഷേധ സംഗമം

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: കീടനാശിനി കൾ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്നാവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു ഗാന്ധിയൻ യുവജന വേദി കിഴക്കേക്കോട്ട ഗാന്ധി പാർക്കിൽ സംഘടിപ്പിച്ച വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളുടെയും യുവജനങ്ങളുടെയും പ്രതിഷേധ സംഗമം ശ്രദ്ധേയമായി.

പെയിന്റിങ്, പ്രസംഗം, ഉപന്യാസം മത്സരങ്ങളിൽ ജില്ലയിലെ വിവിധ വിദ്യാലയ- കലാലയങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നു വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾ പങ്കെടുത്തു.

മത്സരങ്ങൾ ഏകതാ പരിഷത്ത് തെക്കൻ മേഖലാ കൺവീനർ ശ്രീ ജ നെയ്യാറ്റിൻകര ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു.

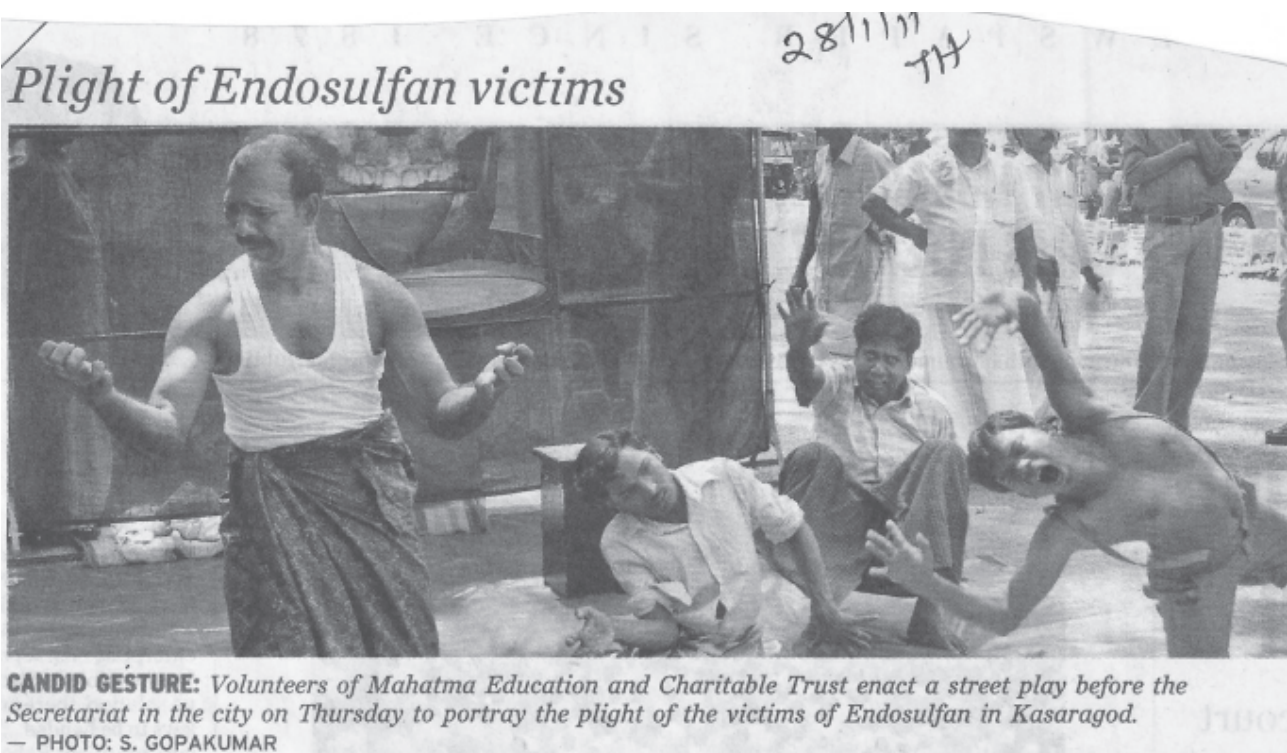
യ്തു.

ഫൈൻ ആർട്സ് കോളേജ് വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളുടെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ കീടനാശിനി വിരുദ്ധ ചിത്രകലാ സംഗമം സംഘടിപ്പിച്ചു. കാര്യക്കാര്യം വിജയകുമാർ ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു. കേരള ചിത്രകലാ പരിഷത്ത് പ്രസിഡന്റ് വേണു തെക്കേമം അധ്യക്ഷനായിരുന്നു.

കീടനാശിനി വിരുദ്ധ സമ്മേളനം ഗാന്ധി പീസ് ഫൗണ്ടേഷൻ സെക്രട്ടറി മുരുകുപുഴ സി. രാജേന്ദ്രൻ ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു.

Organize pesticide awareness campaign

Thiruvananthapuram: Gandhian Youth Forum organized anti pesticide campaign in Kalicut. Various programmes including painting competition and essay were conducted as part of the programme.



CANDID GESTURE: Volunteers of Mahatma Education and Charitable Trust enact a street play before the Secretariat in the city on Thursday to portray the plight of the victims of Endosulfan in Kasaragod.

— PHOTO: S. GOPAKUMAR



തൊളിക്കോട് ക്രിസ്ത്യൻ സ്കൂളിലെ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾ എൻഡോസൾഫാനെതിരെയുള്ള തെരുവുനാടകം തിരുവനന്തപുരം പബ്ലിക് ലൈബ്രറി ഹാളിൽ അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നു.

എൻഡോസൾഫാനെതിരെ നാടകവുമായി കുറുനുകൾ

വിതൂര: എൻഡോസൾഫാനെതിരെ പ്രതികരിച്ചു തൊളിക്കോട് തേവൻപാറ ക്രിസ്ത്യൻ സ്കൂളിലെ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾ നടത്തുന്ന തെരുവു നാടകം ശ്രദ്ധയാകർഷിക്കുന്നു. കുട്ടികളാണു രചനയും സംവിധാനവും നിർവഹിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നത്. തിരുവനന്തപുരത്തു നടന്ന സംസ്ഥാന ബാലകൃഷിശാസ്ത്രകോൺഗ്രസിൽ നാടകം അവതരിപ്പിച്ചു അഭിജിത്, മ

നു, റീജു, അഭിലാഷ്, സാജൻ, ജനി, ജിതിൻ, ഫ്രാങ്ക്, സെജിൻ എന്നിവരാണു നാടകത്തിൽ വേഷമിടുന്നത്. ഫെഡ്ജിസ്സസ് സിസ്റ്റർ സുജിത, അധ്യാപകരായ സിസ്റ്റർ ഷൈനീമോൾ, ബിജു എന്നിവരാണു മേൽനോട്ടം വഹിക്കുന്നത്. നടൻമാർ എല്ലാവരും ബാലജനസഖ്യം വിതൂരയുണിയ നിലെ അംഗങ്ങളാണ്. ഫോൺ: 98950 95765.

Drama to fight endodulfan

Vithura (Thiruvananthapuram) Students of Thevan Para Krishthukiran School demonstrated street play to make people aware of pesticide poisoning including endosulfan.

THE HINDU • THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2011

Ban hazardous pesticides, says Sri Sri Ravi Shankar

Staff Reporter

KASARAGOD: Expressing concern over the extensive use of hazardous pesticides and fertilizers in farming, spiritual leader Sri Sri Ravi Shankar has said that his Art of Living Foundation is planning to set up an agriculture institute in the district to increase awareness of and give a boost to organic farming.

"We are planning to set up an agriculture institute in Kasaragod district, a region blessed with abundant natural beauty and rich bio-diversity, to promote organic farming in a big way as the use

of hazardous pesticides like Endosulfan has spoiled the micro-organic content of soil and water," Sri Sri Ravi Shankar said at an interaction with local political and religious leaders at Udma on Wednesday.

Stressing the need to ban the use of hazardous pesticides and chemical fertilizers in farming, he said the authorities should take serious steps in this direction even if it resulted in reduced farm output for some time.

The agriculture institute would help youths in particular to switch over to organic farming.

Hunger stirTH against Endosulfan

Staff Reporter

KANHANGAD: Protests against Endosulfan pesticide in the district is set to gain momentum with a group of activists deciding to launch an indefinite hunger strike before the Periyar office of the Plantation Corporation of Kerala's cashew estate on February 20 raising various demands.

The Periyar unit of the Anti-Endosulfan Campaign Committee will launch an indefinite hunger strike seeking removal of around 900 litres of the banned pesticide kept inside the Periyar office of the PCK. Periyar is one of the worst affected localities where hundreds of people are bedridden due to mysterious diseases suspected to have been caused due to prolonged spraying of the now banned pesticide.

The agitators demands include disbursement of the PCK land among the affected families and workers of the corporation, waiver of loans taken by the affected families, speedy trial of officials who paved way for the serious health hazards in the district and declaration of Kasaragod as Endosulfan-free district, P.Muraleedharan, chairman of the Periyar unit of the committee, told a press conference here.

A march would be inaugurated by Leela Kumari Amma, a retired State Agriculture Department employee, who was instrumental in highlighting the serious health hazards suspected to have been caused by the overexposure of the pesticide in the PCK land.

21/2/11 Depik

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ സമരസഹായ സമിതി രൂപീകരിച്ചു

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ പൂർണ്ണമായി നിരോധിക്കാനും ഇരകളെ പുനരധിവാസിപ്പിക്കാനുമാവശ്യപ്പെട്ട് നടക്കുന്ന സമരത്തിന് പിന്തുണ പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ച് എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ വിരുദ്ധ സംസ്ഥാനതല സമരസഹായ സമിതി നിലവിൽ വന്നു. ഡോ. ഡി. സുരേന്ദ്രനാഥിന്റെ അധ്യക്ഷതയിൽ തിരുവനന്തപുരത്ത് ഒത്തുചേർന്ന വിവിധ സംഘടനാ നേതാക്കളുടെ യോഗത്തിൽ ബി.ആർ.പി. ഭാസ്കരൻ ചെയർമാനായും എം. ഷാജർഖാനെ ജനറൽ കൺവീനറായും തെരഞ്ഞെടുത്തു. സാറാ ജോസഫ്, സി.ആർ. നീലകണ്ഠൻ, പി. സുരേന്ദ്രൻ, കാനായി കുഞ്ഞിരാമൻ, അഡ്വ. മഞ്ചേരി സുന്ദർരാജ്, വിധോട് വേണുഗോപാൽ തുടങ്ങിയവരാണ് അംഗങ്ങൾ.

Action forum to fight endosulfan
Thiruvanthapuram: A State level action forum was formed to fight endosulfan

25/2/11 MTH

എൻഡോസൾഫാനെ രക്ഷിക്കാൻ കേന്ദ്ര കൃഷിമന്ത്രാലയം: സുധീരൻ

കൊല്ലം: നിരോധനത്തിൽനിന്ന് എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ കമ്പനിയെ രക്ഷിക്കാൻ കേന്ദ്ര കൃഷിമന്ത്രാലയം കൂട്ടുനിൽക്കുന്നുവെന്ന് വി.എം. സുധീരൻ കുറേപ്പറഞ്ഞു. എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ദോഷകരമല്ലെന്ന മന്ത്രി ശരദ് പവാറിന്റെ വാദം അത് ഉൽപ്പാദിപ്പിക്കുന്ന കമ്പനികളുടെതാണ്.

അമേരിക്ക ഉൾപ്പെടെ 74 രാജ്യങ്ങൾ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിച്ചിട്ടും അതിനു ദോഷമില്ലെന്ന പവാറിന്റെ വാദം അർത്ഥശൂന്യമാണ്. കമ്പനിയുടെ പ്രതിനിധികൾ ഉൾപ്പെട്ടവർ തയ്യാറാക്കിയ മൂന്നു റിപ്പോർട്ടുകളിൽ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ ദോഷകരമല്ലെന്നു പറയുമ്പോൾ സ്വതന്ത്ര ഏജൻസികൾ തയ്യാറാക്കിയ 13 റിപ്പോർട്ടുകളിൽ ഗുരുതരമായ പ്രത്യാഘാതം സൃഷ്ടിക്കുമെന്നു വ്യക്തമാക്കിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. കേന്ദ്ര കൃഷി വകുപ്പും സംസ്ഥാന സർക്കാറും പ്ലാന്റേഷൻ കോർപ്പറേഷനും ജനങ്ങൾക്കുമേൽ ദുരന്തം അടിച്ചേൽപ്പിക്കുകയാണെന്ന് അദ്ദേഹം പറഞ്ഞു.

എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്ന ആവശ്യവുമായി സർവകക്ഷിസംഘം ഡൽഹിയിൽ പോകുമെന്നു മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി വി.എസ്. അച്യുതാനന്ദൻ നവംബറിൽ പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ചുവെങ്കിലും അതിന് ഒരു നീക്കവും നടത്തിയിട്ടില്ല.

ഏപ്രിൽ 25നു സ്റ്റോക്ക്ഹോമിൽ നടക്കുന്ന രാജ്യാന്തര സമ്മേളനത്തിൽ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധനം ചർച്ച ചെയ്യപ്പെടും. രണ്ടുവർഷം മുമ്പു നടന്ന ഇതേ യോഗത്തിൽ ഇന്ത്യ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ നിരോധിക്കണമെന്ന് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടില്ല.

ഇന്ത്യൻ സംഘത്തെ എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ കമ്പനി സ്വാധീനിച്ചുവെന്ന് ആരോപണം ഉയർന്നിരുന്നു. ഇനിയെങ്കിലും അതു സംഭവിക്കാതിരിക്കാനാണ് കേരള സർക്കാർ മുൻകരുതലുണ്ടെന്ന്.

സമരം നടത്തുന്നവരെ മോശമായി ചിത്രീകരിക്കാനാണ് എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ കമ്പനി ശ്രമിക്കുന്നത്.

തങ്ങളുടെ ഭാഗം ന്യായീകരിക്കാൻ ശാസ്ത്രജ്ഞരെന്ന പേരിൽ കുറച്ചുപേരെ അണിനിരത്തി പ്രചാരണവേലകൾ സംഘടിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. പലരും എൻഡോസൾഫാൻ കമ്പനിയുടെ സ്വാധീനത്തിലാണ്.

കാസർകോട്ടെ ദുരിതബാധിതർക്കു സംസ്ഥാന സർക്കാർ പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ച തുച്ഛമായ സാമ്പത്തിക സഹായം ഏറെപ്പേർക്കും ലഭിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. ബാങ്ക് വായ്പകൾക്ക് മൊരട്ടോറിയം പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ചുവെന്നു സർക്കാർ പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ചശേഷവും ജപ്തി നോട്ടീസുകൾ വരുന്നുണ്ടെന്ന് അദ്ദേഹം ചൂണ്ടിക്കാട്ടി.

Central government protect endosulfan companies: V M Sudheeran
Kollam: Congress leader V M Sudheeran accused that central government is not taking steps to ban endosulfan. The governments attempt is to protect the interests of endosulfan companies.

Sudheeran flays Centre's stand on endosulfan

Express News Service
Kasaragod, March 3

CONGRESS leader V M Sudheeran has contradicted the statement of Union Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar that endosulfan was a harmless pesticide.

Addressing mediapersons at the Press Club here on Thursday, Sudheeran said that various lobbies were at work to retain endosulfan in the country.

"While 74 coun-



tries have banned endosulfan, the Central Government is taking a stand favourable to the pesticide lobby in the country. These countries banned endo-

sulfan after conducting exhaustive studies about its harmful effects," he said.

The pesticide lobby played an active role in dissuading the country from taking a stand in favour of the country-wide ban on endosulfan at the Stockholm Convention

on persistent organic pollutants, Sudheeran added.

He later addressed the volunteers who were holding an indefinite fast in front of the Plantation Corporation godown in Peria, demanding the corporation to help endosulfan victims.

Endosulfan

NCW asks Centre to take steps to contain menace

Prabhakar Rao Voruganti | ENS
New Delhi, March 12

THE National Commission for Women (NCW) has asked the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Govt of India to take appropriate action to solve the problems arising out of Endosulfan use in the Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and others. The NCW passed this direction on a petition filed by Supreme Court advocate and rights activist Radhakanta Tripathy.

The petition explains the plight of people, especially that of the women and children by the use of Endosulfan in cashew nut plantations

IN ENDOSULFAN



The NCW passed this direction on a petition filed by Supreme Court advocate and rights activist Radhakanta Tripathy

result in severe health hazards. The pregnant women feel unbearable pain and give birth to deformed children.

The people living in the nearby areas also become physically and mentally challenged. Although Endosulfan has been banned in more than 70 countries in the world, India is the one country that opposed the ban of its use. In his petition, Tripathy questioned India's reluctance to ban its use.

The international conference which was held at Stockholm in October, 2010 recommended that Endosulfan should be listed as a highly hazardous chemical.

Tripathy requested the

NCW to recommend to the Centre to ban the use of Endosulfan, conduct nation-wide survey of the victims of Endosulfan use, provide them adequate medical care, rehabilitate and compensate them and enact stricter laws to regulate the use of pesticide.

In a similar petition before the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), Tripathy raised identical issues of violation of child rights by the use of Endosulfan and explained as to how it costs children's lives. Considering his petition NCPCR has asked the Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Kerala Government to re-

spond to the points as raised in the petition.

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has already asked the State Human Rights Commission of Kerala, in two cases filed by Tripathy.

In the first petition, the petitioner explained the death of more than 500 people in 11 panchayats in Kasaragod, Kerala. In his second petition, he emphasised on the fact that for the fault of the Health, Environment and Agriculture Departments of the state, the citizens cannot be subjected to untold miseries of deformity and numerous physical and mental challenges.

Harsha | ENS
Mangalore, March 20

The horrific truth has even stunned those in the forefront of a campaign demanding a ban on the pesticide. The highest concentration of mentally retarded children in Puttur, Sullia, Beltangady, Vitla and Bantwal Assembly segments had seemed no more than a big puzzle until an RTI activist pinned down

Beginning from 1978 to 2001, KCDC confessed to aerial spraying of the pesticide in 6,387.28 acres of cashew plantations in more than five Assembly constituencies. Activist and a victim of en-

An untiring human rights crusader, Dr Ravindranath Shanbhag, swung into action by successfully convincing gram panchayats on the need to undertake a quick survey of the dangerous diseases, deformities and deaths in the region in order to back the state's justification in banning endosulfan and eventually envisage a rehabilitation package for thousands of retarded children in the hinterland.

■ အမျိုးသမီးများအတွက်

കിരോസിയോസ് ബിഷപ്പിന് തദ്ദേശസമൂഹങ്ങളുമായും അന്താരാഷ്ട്ര സമൂഹവുമായും ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട് പ്രവർത്തിക്കാനും സാധിക്കുമെന്ന് പ്രതീക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. കിരോസിയോസ് ബിഷപ്പിന്റെ സാന്നിധ്യം കേരളത്തിലെ സഭയുടെയും സഭാസമൂഹങ്ങളുടെയും പ്രതിനിധിത്വം വഹിക്കുന്നതായി കരുതുന്നു. കിരോസിയോസ് ബിഷപ്പിന്റെ സാന്നിധ്യം കേരളത്തിലെ സഭയുടെയും സഭാസമൂഹങ്ങളുടെയും പ്രതിനിധിത്വം വഹിക്കുന്നതായി കരുതുന്നു. കിരോസിയോസ് ബിഷപ്പിന്റെ സാന്നിധ്യം കേരളത്തിലെ സഭയുടെയും സഭാസമൂഹങ്ങളുടെയും പ്രതിനിധിത്വം വഹിക്കുന്നതായി കരുതുന്നു.

ഏകീഭവം സംഭവിക്കാൻ തീർത്തതാണിത്. അപ്പോഴാണ്

கொடைநிறுத்தியது. அமெரிக்காவின் நிதியாமைச்சரான ஸ்டீவ் நக்சின், நியாயப் புகழினைப்போ, கிரகவாசிகளாகவோ இவ் ஐரூபிய நாட்டினரின் நிதியாமைச்சராகவோ அங்குமே சென்றதன்மீது புகார் சமர்ப்பை அளிப்பின்போது, அங்கு கிடைக்கக் கூடியதான இவ்நாட்டினர் துணைப்பாளியாகப் பணிபுரிந்து, அவரின்மீது கிரகவாசிகளுக்கே சென்ற துன்பம், அங்கு, யுத்தநாட்டினரின்மீதுமே புகழ்க்கப்படுகிறது. ஸ்டீவ் நக்சின்மீது புகார் செய்து, நிதியாமைச்சரின் பதவி நீக்கப்படும் வரையில் தாமதப்பிக்கவோ, அங்கு

[illegible]

The reply received for a question asked under Right to Information Act to Ministry of Agriculture, revealed that the Hon'ble Minister lied to Parliament stating that many other States and organisations opposed ban on Endosulfan. He evaded the questions like which States and organisations who demanded no ban on endosulfan.

Higher pension for victims to be ban Endosulfan to compensate victims

Endosulfan: VS calls officials' meet relief measures to be reviewed

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Chief Minister V. S. Achuthanandan will convene a conference of officials on November 12 to review relief measures undertaken by the government for victims of Endosulfan in Kasaragod district.

The conference will review the effectiveness of assistance provided by government to the victims.

Besides welfare pensions to the disabled, the government is providing monthly assistance for bystanders of Endosulfan victims, rice at 2 kg and medical assistance.

The meet may also look into the possibility of obtaining compensation for the victims through the establishment of a tribunal.

Assessment
The government is currently providing a solatium of 10,000 to the relatives of the victims.

It has, however, provided 1 lakh each to the victims of the recent liquor tragedy in Appuram district.

The case of Endosulfan victims is considered a bigger tragedy. The conference will be attended by officials of the Health Department and the Agriculture Council for Science, Technology and Environment.

The Kasaragod Collector, members of the district health committee are also likely to be invited to the meeting. The Council is currently preparing a report on the environment in the affected villages.



- Meet may consider establishment of a tribunal
- Council report may be delayed further

environment in the affected villages.

Assessment
For this, it is assessing the Endosulfan residues still present in soil, sediments and human blood and the state of biodiversity. Besides, the economic, social and environmental impact of the pesticide is also being looked into.

Delay in report
Though the work was proposed to be completed by last month, the assessment is getting delayed. The results of analysis of sediments and other samples collected in August are likely to be received only by December. The report may be delayed further.

More reports on Page 4

files affidavit

- Considering various options to provide relief to victims
- Writ petition seeks constitution of special tribunals

The government said the use of Endosulfan had been banned or phased out in all countries, including Brazil and the U.S. At a review meeting of the Stockholm convention in Geneva recently, the use of the pesticide was seriously considered as 'persistent organic pollutant'.

The government said that studies had shown that Endosulfan was extremely toxic in nature. It informed the Bench of Chief Justice J. Chelameswar and Justice P.R. Ramachandran Menon that the government was seriously considering various options for providing compensation to the victims of Endosulfan in the State.

As the matter involved policy decision, it had to be taken at the highest level after serious discussions.

The affidavit was filed in response to a writ petition filed by T. Asaf Ali, president, Indian Lawyers' Congress, seeking to constitute a special tribunal for identifying Endosulfan victims in Kasaragod.

The affidavit said the government had addressed a letter to the Union Agriculture Ministry seeking early action for solving the problems created by the use of Endosulfan. The government said that four expert committees had done epidemiological study at Padre village in Kasaragod where aerial spraying of the pesticide was conducted by the corporation. All the committees had recommended stoppage of aerial spraying of Endosulfan.

Service number 10

It has been consistent from the state for the use of endosulfan in the entire nation, and the Health Department had on May 3, informed the Union Ministry of Agriculture the problems created by the use of endosulfan, the government submitted before the Kerala High Court on Wednesday. In an affidavit submitted by the deputy secretary of the Department of Agriculture, M. A. Francis, the government...



Endosulfan victims compensation to be provided by the state government in Kasaragod.

കണക്കെടല
കേരള സർക്കാർ എൻഡോസൾഫൻ വിരുദ്ധമായി നിയമനിർമ്മാണം നടത്തുമെന്ന് വാഗ്ദാനം ചെയ്തെങ്കിലും ഇതുവരെ നടപടി സ്വീകരിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. ഇതിനെക്കുറിച്ച് കർഷകർക്ക് ആവേശമുണ്ട്.

ഭൂരിതഥാധിതരുടെ ആവശ്യമനുസരിച്ചുള്ള നിയമനിർമ്മാണം
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firm on its demand

Agriculture Minister seeks national ban on Endosulfan

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Minister for Agriculture M. Lakshmanan said that the State government will not budge on its demand for a national ban on Endosulfan.

The State government reiterates once again, in the context of Endosulfan, the need for the State government to have the authority to regulate agriculture-related matters, the Minister said in a message to the pan-India Kisan Swaraj Yatra, which entered Kerala on Saturday.

Welcoming the yatra, Mr. Lakshmanan noted that agriculture was a State subject under the Indian Constitution and hence the authority should rest with the State.

all technologies that are anti-farmer and anti-nature." He also announced that he would join the yatra when it ends at Rajghat in Delhi on October 2, after travelling through 20 States by bus. "All the issues raised by the yatra are issues of concern to the State government also."

The yatra, which started from Sabarmati in Gujarat on October 2, is touring Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode and Wayanad for three days. During these days, it will involve...

State will oppose all anti-farmer technologies

Kisan Swaraj Yatra touring State

in use of yellow

- Organic agricultural objective
- Scientific community welcomes move

P.V. Balachandran told The Hindustan that the government had constituted a committee to look into the revision of the Package of Practices and review the use of pesticides. The committee had submitted its recommendations and withdrawal of the pesticides to the State government had been among the suggestions that came up.

The State government had been aware of the danger of hazardous pesticides in the district as part of the programme was used. Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan in Kozhikode.

മാതൃഭൂമി



ജീവനാശിനി