



**KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY**  
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Per. untholaivar Kamarajar"

# Endosulfan

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**Why is in news?** Daya Bai to continue protest in spite of Ministers' promises

The Kerala government on Sunday expressed its willingness to meet the demands made by social activist Daya Bai who is on a hunger strike in the State capital seeking relief for the endosulfan victims of Kasaragod.

The SC has banned the **manufacture, sale, use, and export of endosulfan** throughout the country, citing its harmful health **effects in 2015**.

Endosulfan is an **organochlorine insecticide** which was first introduced in the 1950s and is commonly known by its trade name **Thiodan**.

It is linked to a slew of **grave medical conditions**, such as neurotoxicity, physical deformities, poisoning and more.

It is sprayed on crops like cotton, cashew, fruits, tea, paddy, tobacco etc. for **control of pests** such as whiteflies, aphids, beetles, worms etc.

Endosulfan is **listed under both the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants**.

Impact:

Endosulfan in the environment gets **accumulated in food chains** leading to higher doses causing problems.

If Endosulfan is released to water, it is **expected to absorb to the sediment and may bio-concentrate** in aquatic organisms.

The endosulfan ingestion results in diseases ranging from **physical deformities, cancer, birth disorders and damage to the brain and nervous system**.

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## WHAT IS ENDOSULFAN ?

It is a widely-banned pesticide with hazardous effects on human genetic and endocrine systems.



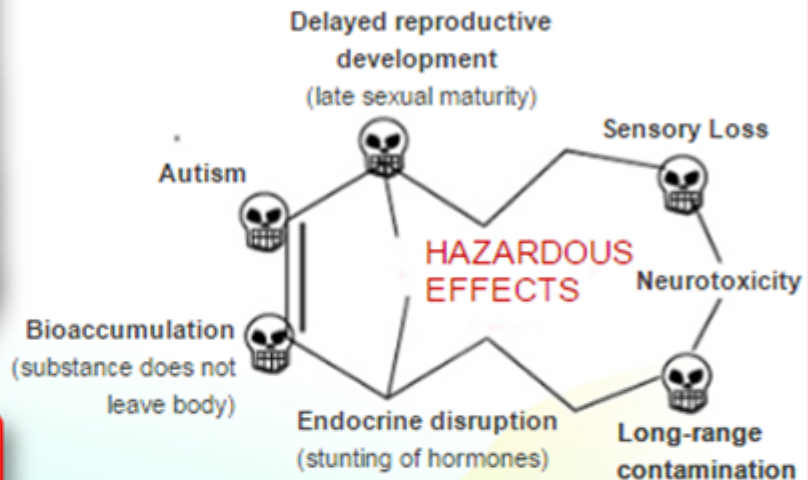
Global consensus reached on adding endosulfan to list of banned substances and phasing it out as an agrichemical



Use of endosulfan banned by Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants



Under pressure from pesticide firms, India sought remission on the ban for 10 years



**MAY 13, 2011**

Supreme Court of India issues temporary ban on production, storage and sale of endosulfan

Kerala and Karnataka are the only States which do not use the pesticide

### NEUROTOXIC

"Endosulfan blocks the inhibitory receptors of the CNS, disrupts the ionic channels and destroys the integrity of the nerve cells. ~ report of fact-finding mission

### KASARGOD DISASTER

From the mid-70s, Kerala villages used aerial spraying of endosulfan on 4,600-ha. cashew nut plantation. Locals reportedly experienced illnesses, palsies and deformities

### USES

Sprayed on crops like cotton, cashew, fruits, tea, paddy, tobacco etc. for control of pests in agriculture such as whiteflies, aphids, beetles, worms etc.