



சுற்றுச்சூழல்  
அணி தி.மு.க

கார்த்திகேய சிவசேனாபதி  
மாநிலச் செயலாளர்



Date: 4th September 2024

To

The Hon'ble Minister,

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,

Government of India,

Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,

Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,

New Delhi – 110003.

Subject: Urgent Concern Regarding Glyphosate Use in Solar Farms and Its Environmental & Health Hazards

Hon'ble Minister,

I am writing to you to bring urgent attention to the growing environmental and health concerns arising from the extensive use of glyphosate-based herbicides in solar farms across the country. While solar energy is a crucial step toward achieving our renewable energy goals, the indiscriminate use of glyphosate for vegetation management within these farms poses serious risks that must be addressed.

#### Health Hazards of Glyphosate Exposure

1. **Carcinogenic Risks:** The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has classified glyphosate as “probably carcinogenic to humans” (Group 2A), linking it to non-Hodgkin lymphoma.
2. **Endocrine Disruption:** Studies indicate that glyphosate interferes with the endocrine system, potentially leading to reproductive and developmental disorders.
3. **Neurological Effects:** Research has associated glyphosate exposure with neurological conditions such as Parkinson's disease, raising concerns about long-term public health impacts.

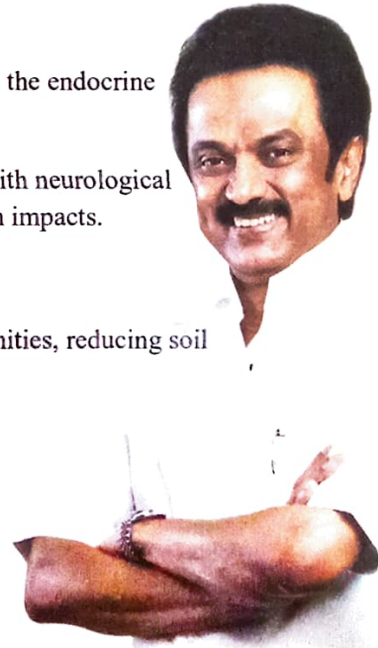
#### Environmental Hazards of Glyphosate Use in Solar Farms

1. **Soil Degradation:** Glyphosate disrupts soil microbial communities, reducing soil fertility and long-term land sustainability.

குட்டப்பாளையம் சாமிநாதன் இல்லம், குட்டப்பாளையம்,  
காங்கயம் தாலுக்கா, திருப்பூர் - 638 108.

dmkenvironmentwing@gmail.com

www.dmk.in | www.dmkenvironmentwing.com | www.karthikeyasivasenapathy.in





சுற்றுச்சூழல்  
அணி தி.மு.க

கார்த்திகேய சிவசேனாபதி  
மாநிலச் செயலாளர்



2. **Water Contamination:** Glyphosate and its byproduct AMPA (aminomethylphosphonic acid) easily leach into groundwater and surface water, contaminating drinking water sources and harming aquatic life.

3. **Loss of Biodiversity:** Widespread glyphosate application kills non-target plant species, leading to habitat destruction and a decline in pollinator populations such as bees and butterflies.

#### Urgent Policy Recommendations

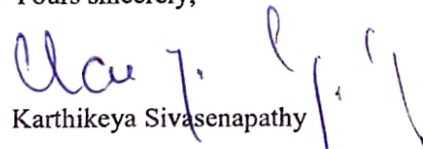
Considering these risks, I urge the Ministry to take the following measures:

1. **Restrict Glyphosate Use in Solar Farms:** Implement stringent regulations on glyphosate application, especially in environmentally sensitive areas.
2. **Promote Sustainable Alternatives:** Encourage the use of mechanical weed control, cover crops, mulching, and livestock grazing as viable alternatives to chemical herbicides.
3. **Monitor and Regulate Water and Soil Contamination:** Establish strict monitoring mechanisms to assess glyphosate contamination levels in groundwater and agricultural lands surrounding solar farms.
4. **Public Awareness and Worker Safety:** Mandate proper training, protective equipment, and safe handling procedures for workers involved in solar farm maintenance.

The Government of India has been at the forefront of sustainable development and climate action, and addressing the hazards of glyphosate use aligns with our national environmental commitments. I urge you to initiate a comprehensive review of glyphosate-based herbicide usage in solar farms and take necessary policy actions to protect public health and the environment.

I look forward to your urgent intervention in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

  
Karthikeya Sivasenapathy

Secretary, Environment Wing

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK)



குட்டப்பாளையம் சாமிநாதன் இல்லம், குட்டப்பாளையம்,  
காங்கயம் தாலுக்கா, திருப்பூர் - 638 108.

dmkenvironmentwing@gmail.com

www.dmk.in | www.dmkenvironmentwing.com | www.karthikeyasivasenapathy.in