

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

RAJYA SABHA

UN STARRED QUESTION NO. 2108 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 08.08.2023

Special package for farmers

2108. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV :

Will the Minister of **CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a special package estimated at ₹ 3.7 lakh crore for farmers will be brought in, as the use of fertilizers has become unbalanced in the country and the nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium ratio should have been 4:2:1, instead it is 8:3:1 in the country now and if so, details thereof and present status thereof;
- (b) whether the balance of the soil has been damaged and production has become saturated and as a result soil, human, animal and environmental healths are connected with one another; and
- (c) the steps being taken to promote one health package and whether Government is bringing out some schemes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)

(a) to (c): The Government has approved a special package of innovative schemes for farmers with total outlay of ₹ 3,70,128.54 crore. The package includes:

- (i) Continuation of the existing Urea Subsidy Scheme upto 31st March, 2025 (FY 2022-23 to 2024-25) at a total estimated outlay of ₹ 3,68,676.70 crore;
- (ii) PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness Generation, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother Earth (PM-PRANAM) for three years (FY 2023-24 to 2025-26) to incentivize States/UTs to promote alternative fertilizers and balanced use of chemical fertilizers. This will incentivize the farmers to reduce the overall consumption of fertilizers for improving soil health and fertility and sustainable productivity; and
- (iii) Market Development Assistance (MDA) @ ₹ 1500/MT to promote organic fertilizers i.e., manure produced at plants under GOBARdhan initiative covering different biogas/CBG support schemes/programmes of stakeholders Ministries/ Departments at the total outlay of ₹1451.84 crore (FY 2023-24 to 2025-26), which includes a corpus of ₹360 crore for research gap funding etc. It will promote integrated nutrient management and reduce overuse of chemical fertilizers ensuring sustainability, soil health and better use efficiency of inputs.

The Government has been promoting use of bio-fertilizers and organic fertilizers and bio-pesticides under organic farming through the scheme of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North East Region (MOVCDNER) since 2015-16. Under these schemes, farmers are primarily encouraged for organic cultivation using organic inputs and end to end support to farmers i.e. from production to marketing of organic produce is ensured. Hands-on training to farmers about on-farm production of organic fertilizers and its use are integral part of these schemes. Farmers are provided subsidy of ₹31000/ha/3 years under PKVY and ₹32500/ha/3 years under MOVCDNER for on-farm organic inputs including bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides as well as for procurement of off-farm organic inputs.

Trainings are provided to farmers on use of bio/organic fertilizers by National Centre for Organic and Natural Farming (NCONF) and Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR).

ICAR has developed improved and efficient strains of bio-fertilizers specific to different crops and soil types with higher shelf life.

National Project on Management of Soil Health & Fertility has been implemented to assist States in promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) through judicious use of chemical fertilizers including secondary and micro nutrients in conjunction with organic manures & bio fertilizers for improving soil health and its productivity.

All these initiatives of the Government on promotion of organic fertilizers and alternative fertilizers address the imbalanced use of chemical fertilizers thereby restoring the standard NPK ratio.
