

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS  
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UN STARRED QUESTION NO. 517 TO BE ANSWERED ON : 25.07.2023**

**Promotion of natural farming practices**

**517. SHRI JAGGESH:  
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes a bouquet of schemes for farmers to help in judicious use of chemical fertilizers, reduce input cost of farmers and promote natural farming practices;
- (b) whether Government proposes to incentivise States which will promote alternative fertilizers and reduce chemical fertilizers; and
- (c) if so, the brief of the schemes for farmers and structure of incentives to State and the time frame for its implementation?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS  
**(BHAGWANTH KHUBA)**

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(a) to (c): The Government has approved the Market Development Assistance (MDA) @ Rs. 1500/MT, to promote organic fertilizers, i.e., manure produced at plants under GOBARdhan initiative; PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness Generation, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother Earth (PM-PRANAM); and Sulphur Coated Urea with the name of 'Urea Gold'.

The Government is promoting the balanced and judicious use of fertilizers based on soil test based recommendations in conjunction with organic and bio-fertilizers.

The PM-PRANAM initiative aims to support the mass movement started by States/UTs to save the health of Mother Earth by promoting sustainable and balanced use of fertilizers, adopting alternate fertilizers, promoting organic farming and implementing resource conservation technologies. Under the said scheme, it is proposed that 50% of the fertilizer subsidy saved by a State/Union Territory in a particular financial year by way of reduction in consumption of chemical fertilizers (Urea, DAP, NPK, MOP) compared to previous 3 years' average consumption, will be passed on to that State/UT as Grant.

The Sulphur Coated Urea will address Sulphur deficiency in the soil. It will also save input costs for the farmers and raise income for farmers with the enhanced production and productivity.

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