GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1444 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 01/08/2025

PROGRAMME TO IMPROVE SOIL HEALTH

1444. SHRI RYAGA KRISHNAIAH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to start any programme to improve the health of the soil and consequently increase the production;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any guidelines have been issued to farmers from time to time regarding the health of soil;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether any training has been given to farmers regarding proper use of fertilizers to improve soil quality; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

- (a) & (b): Soil Health & Fertility Scheme is implemented by Government since 2015. Under the scheme, Soil Health Cards (SHCs) are issued to farmers to improve the health of the soil. SHCs encourage judicious use of fertilizer including secondary and micro nutrients in conjunction with organic manures & bio-fertilizers.
- (c) & (d): 25.17 Crore Soil Health Cards have been issued since inception of Soil Health & Fertility Scheme (as on 24.07.2025) to farmers. SHCs provide information on nutrient status of soil and recommendation on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health & fertility. Advisory are given to farmers through Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Krishi Sakhi etc.
- (e) to (f): Till date, 6.8 lakh demonstrations, 93,781 farmer's training programmes and 7,425 farmer's mela have been organized across the country to educate farmers regarding proper use of fertilizers as per recommendation of Soil Health Card to improve soil quality.
