GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS' WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS' WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2251 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 08/08/2025

STEPS TO TACKLE SOIL SALINIZATION

2251. Shri Dhairyashil Mohan Patil:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that 32,000 hectares of agricultural land has been affected by spilling of salinated water in Uran, Alibag, Pen and Panvel talukas of Raigad district and 55% of ground water samples have been found to be salinized;
- (b) whether any steps have been taken to tackle soil salinization;
- (c) whether special funds are proposed to be allocated under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana Reclamation of Problem Soils (RKVY-RPS) scheme; and
- (d) the provisions for coordination with the State Governments?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) generates groundwater quality data on regional scale including Uran, Alibag, Pen and Panvel talukas of Raigad district of Maharashtra as part of its groundwater quality monitoring program and various scientific studies. 50 groundwater samples were collected from Raigad district during 2023, including 6 samples from Alibag Taluka, 3 from Pen Taluka, 4 from Panvel Taluka and 2 from Uran Taluka. Chemical analysis revealed that none of the samples exceeded the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) permissible limit of electrical conductivity (EC > 3000 $\mu \text{S/cm}$) in the abovementioned Talukas of Raigad District.
- (b) to (d) Under the Soil Health & Fertility component of Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY), financial assistance is provided for reclamation of problem soils viz. Acidic Soils, Alkali Soils and Saline Soils (Alluvial and Heavy Textured). The programme is implemented by the State Governments as per their Annual Action Plans.
