GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS

RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 102

ANSWERED ON - 09/12/2025

PLI SCHEME FOR FERTILIZERS AND CHEMICALS

*102. SHRI RATANJIT PRATAP NARAIN SINGH:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress made under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme to encourage local production of critical fertilizers and chemicals;
- (b) the manner in which the Ministry has strengthened quality monitoring and enforcement to safeguard farmer interests in the fertilizer supply chain;
- (c) whether the Minister would elaborate on sustainable fertilizer initiatives to reduce environmental impact and enhance soil health;
- (d) the support extended to MSMEs and startups innovating in eco-friendly chemical manufacturing; and
- (e) the manner in which the Ministry is partnering with States to improve farmer education on the responsible use of fertilizers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) in respect of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 102 for reply on 09.12.2025 regarding 'PLI Scheme for fertilizers and chemicals' asked by Shri Ratanjit Pratap Narain Singh

- (a) Presently, there is no Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme under implementation for Fertilizers and Chemicals sector.
- (b) In order to strengthen quality monitoring and enforcement mechanism to safeguard farmer interests in the fertilizer supply chain, Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 (FCO) has laid down fertilizer-wise detailed specifications. The FCO is issued under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 by Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare. State Governments have the mandate of enforcement of the provisions of the FCO ensuring quality and availability for farmers. Any fertilizer, not meeting the said specifications, cannot be sold in the country. Clause 19 of FCO strictly prohibits the sale of fertilizers which are not of prescribed standards. Every sample drawn by Inspector is analysed as per the methods of analysis given in FCO in a laboratory notified by Central/State Government. Any violation of the Fertilizer Control Order invokes penal action of punishment from 3 months to 7 years as well as administrative action of cancellation/ suspension of authorization letter.

The Government of India in consultation with the State Governments monitors the availability of fertilizers on daily basis. Further, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare periodically monitors the enforcement action taken by the State Governments against the cases of Black marketing, Hoarding, Sub-standard Quality and Diversion on weekly basis.

(c) Government promotes judicious use of fertilizer through Soil Health & Fertility scheme. The scheme has been implemented since 2014-15 to provide Soil Health Cards (SHCs) for all farm holdings to promote balanced and integrated nutrient management for improving productivity and soil fertility. The SHCs give farmers a detailed report for their soil, mentioning what nutrients are present as well as what and how much fertilizer to use, helping them have better yields and keep their land healthy for long-term. Soil samples are processed as per standard procedures and analyzed for parameters such as pH, Electrical Conductivity, Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, Sulphur, and other micro-nutrients. The diagnostic soil health assessment is done at least once in 3 years. Since 2014-15, 25.61 Crore Soil Health Cards have been issued as on date across the country. Under the scheme, Rs. 1970 Crore fund has been released so far since inception. 93,781 farmer's trainings, 6.80 lakh demonstrations, 7425 farmer's melas/ campaigns on SHCs have been organized across the country till date.

India Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is also promoting a sustainable fertilizer use focused on reducing environmental impact and improving soil health through soil testing based balanced and integrated nutrient management. As a part of this following measure have been taken by ICAR:

- The Council has generated improved crop- and soil-specific biofertilizer with longer shelf life along with technologies for producing phosphocompost, vermicompost, bio-enriched compost and municipal solid waste compost, to reduce dependence on chemical fertilizers.
- A guided approach of right mix of inorganic fertilizers with organic sources such as manures, biofertilizers, green manuring and in-situ crop residue recycling, along with the 4R approach of applying the Right dose, at the Right time, in the Right manner and using the Right type of fertilizer.
- ICAR further supports the adoption of these practices through farmer trainings, front-line demonstrations and awareness programmes.

Further, Department of Fertilizer is administering PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness Generation, Nourishment, and Amelioration of Mother-Earth (PM-PRANAM) scheme. The initiative aims to promote sustainable and balanced use of fertilizers, promotion of organic farming and implementation of resource conservation technologies. Under the said scheme, 50% of the fertilizer subsidy saved by a State/UT in a particular financial year by way of reduction in consumption of chemical fertilizers compared to average consumption of previous 3 years, will be passed on to that State/UT as Grant.

- (d) Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises implements various schemes for MSMEs including those involved in Chemical manufacturing. Brief of these scheme are as under:
 - 1. Micro and Small Enterprises- Green Investments and Financing for Transformation (MSE-GIFT) Scheme: This scheme, launched in 2023, provides interest subvention and risk sharing facility for selected green technologies. A budget of Rs 478 Crore has been allocated.
 - 2. Micro and Small Enterprises- Scheme for Promotion and Investment in Circular Economy (MSE-SPICE) Scheme: The scheme has an outlay of Rs. 472.50 Crore for the period of FY 2023-24 to 2026-27. It aims to encourage Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSEs) to adopt Circular Economy practices.

Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals has formulated a scheme on setting up of Centres of Excellence. The objective is to provide grant-in-aid to educational and research institutions to develop new applications, improve existing technology and promote environmentally sustainable development. 2 Centres of Execllence at IIT (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad and IIT, Kanpur are engaged in development of eco friendly chemical manufacturing. Under the scheme, the Government of India provides financial support up to 50 per cent of the total project cost subject to an upper limit of Rs. 5 Crores.

(e) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in collaboration with States promotes sustainable practices such as natural and organic farming and integrated nutrient management by educating and creating awareness among farmers on responsible use of fertilizers. Under Dharti Mata Bachao Abhiyan, committees have been constituted at district, block and Gram Panchayat levels to create awareness among the farmers about judicious use of fertilizers.

Fertilizer companies with support of Department of Fertilizers, organize Farmers' Camps/Kisan Sangosthis for direct field interaction with farmers, cooperatives, and panchayats. The program aims to boost farmers' knowledge of Integrated Nutrient Management, promote balanced fertilizer use through interactive sessions. Awareness activities under the Kisan Sangosthis include demonstrations on application of Fermented Organic Manure, Phosphate Rich Organic Manure, and Organic Potash.

Further, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals organises Farmers Training Programmes across the country on the subject Safe and Judicious Use of Pesticides, Promotion of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Organic/Natural Farming Practices. These training programmes are organised in collaboration with State Agriculture Departments/Agriculture Universities.
