

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

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UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2256

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 07/08/2026

**ASSESSMENT OF EFFICIENCY OF FERTILIZER IN IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY OF
FOOD GRAINS**

2256. SHRI TERASH GOWALLA:

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

- (a) whether Government has undertaken any assessment of fertilizer-use efficiency in the production of paddy, wheat and pulses and its impact on productivity, soil health and input costs;
- (b) the year-wise production of these food grains during the last five years, along with the quantity of chemical fertilizers consumed;
- (c) the schemes implemented to promote balanced nutrient management, improve productivity and encourage sustainable farming practices; and
- (d) the quantity and value of food grains exported during the last five years, the foreign exchange earned therefrom and the measures taken to enhance India's export competitiveness while ensuring domestic food security?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

- (a) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has informed that, extensive research has been undertaken to assess fertilizer-use efficiency in paddy, wheat and pulses under different agro-ecological conditions through Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Soil Test Crop Response (STCR), Site-Specific Nutrient Management (SSNM) and Long-Term Fertilizer Experiments (LTFEs). Long-term studies have demonstrated that balanced fertilizer application and integrated nutrient management maintain soil health, improve crop productivity. Nutrient-use efficiency thereby optimized fertilizer use, reduces input costs.
- (b) Year-wise production of rice, wheat and pulses during the last five years and year wise sale of fertilizers during the last five years are at **Annexure I**.
- (c) Government is implementing following schemes and programmes to promote balanced nutrient management, improve productivity and encourage sustainable farming practices-
 - (i) Balanced use of fertilizer is promoted under the Soil Health & Fertility Scheme, Soil Health Cards (SHCs) are generated, which provide nutrient status of soil, based on which crop-wise fertilizer recommendations are provided to farmers, thereby promoting balanced and efficient

nutrient management. SHC helps in enhancing crop productivity, reduce cultivation costs, and promote sustainable agriculture. So far, 26.26 crore Soil Health Cards have been generated and issued to farmers. 1,30,627 farmer's trainings, 7.17 lakh demonstrations, 7,425 farmer's Melas on soil health card recommendations have been organized.

- (ii) National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) was approved by the Union Cabinet on 25 November 2024. NMNF promotes chemical-free, nature-based farming practices using on-farm inputs. Under the scheme, 23.13 lakh farmers have been registered and 11.44 lakh hectares area have been covered,
- (iii) Special awareness Campaign and "Khet Bachao Abhiyan" on balanced use of fertilizers was conducted by Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) and ICAR during the current Kharif Season 2026. 2,94,554 programs were conducted in this campaign covering 1,36,73,465 farmers. Farmers were also made aware about Natural/Organic Farming, bio-inputs, alternative fertilizers etc.
- (iv) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) promotes organic farming by providing end-to-end support covering production, processing, certification, and marketing. So far, 18.93 lakh hectares have been brought under organic farming and 33.63 lakh farmers have been benefited.
- (v) Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) promotes organic farming in North Eastern States. So far, 2.36 lakh hectares have been brought under organic farming and 2.74 lakh farmers have been benefited.
- (vi) The Government also promotes Soil Organic Carbon Enhancer namely, Fermented Organic Manure (FOM) /Liquid Fermented Organic Manure (LFOM) as a part of judicious use of fertilizers.

(d) Department of Commerce through the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides financial support to stakeholders, for export promotion of its Scheduled products, through its Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS), under three components viz., Development of Export Infrastructure, Quality Development and Market Development. APEDA organises the participation of its member exporters in key international trade fairs in India and abroad, to enable them to understand global standards, interact directly with buyers and negotiate business. Product showcasing and wet sampling are also carried out for export promotion. The year wise details of export of major foodgrain commodities alongwith values are at **Annexure-II**.

Annexure – I**Details of year-wise production of rice, wheat and pulses during the last five**

Crop	Production (Lakh Tonnes)				
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Rice	1294.71	1357.55	1378.25	1501.84	1540.24
Wheat	1077.42	1105.54	1132.92	1179.45	1206.57
Pulses	273.02	260.58	242.46	256.83	274.09
Total Food grains	3156.16	3296.87	3322.98	3577.32	3765.63

(Based on 3rd Advance Estimates for the year 2025-26)

Details of year sale of fertilizer during the last five years

Year Wise Sale of Fertilizer (In Thousand Metric Tonnes)						
YEAR	UREA	DAP	MOP	Complex	SSP	Total
2021-22	34173.17	9264.26	2392.97	12137.92	5676.43	63644.75
2022-23	35725.60	10531.04	1631.87	10730.84	5017.76	63637.11
2023-24	35780.94	10973.03	1645.28	11679.95	4544.29	64623.49
2024-25	38792.47	9629.04	2202.54	14971.91	4928.49	70524.45
2025-26	39659.56	10080.23	2429.43	15037.47	5529.23	72736.23

(Source- DoF)

Annexure – II

The data on the quantity of exports of major foodgrains (at the principal commodity level) from India to the world are as under:

	Quantity in MT				
Commodity	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Non-Basmati Rice	17,260,688	17,786,557	11,116,713	14,128,955	15,044,689
Basmati Rice	3,947,973	4,560,762	5,242,511	6,065,456	6,521,797
Pulses	388,403	762,851	594,164	730,731	974,578
Other Cereals	3,850,667	3,625,735	1,596,680	704,111	1,433,070
Wheat	7,234,677	4,693,292	188,284	3,566	31,186
Total	32,682,408	31,429,197	18,738,352	21,632,819	24,005,320
<i>Source: DGCIS</i>					

The data on the value (in USD terms) of exports of major foodgrains (at the principal commodity level) from India to the world are as under:

	Value in USD Million				
Commodity	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Non-Basmati Rice	6,123.94	6,355.75	4,570.05	6,527.58	5,864.59
Basmati Rice	3,540.22	4,787.50	5,837.13	5,944.48	5,672.77
Pulses	359.04	661.59	644.01	778.17	947.33
Other Cereals	1,084.65	1,193.47	517.65	270.88	445.67
Wheat	2,120.27	1,519.69	56.66	2.03	10.29
Total	13,228.12	14,518.00	11,625.50	13,523.14	12,940.65

Source: DGCIS
