

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1986
TO BE ANSWERED ON : 14.03.2017

Research Initiatives

1986. SHRI D K SURESH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there is a need to promote eco-friendly micro-nutrients and pesticide coated slow release fertilizers to ensure reduction of Carbon footprint of Fertilizer sector in the country and if so, give details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has taken note of the need for research in the area of fertilizer manufacturing technology in the country and if so, the steps being taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government is taking any steps to encourage research for innovation in fertilizer products; and
- (d) if so, the achievements made so far, in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS, SHIPPING AND
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)

(a) to (d): In order to promote research in the field of fertilizers, Indian Council for Fertilizers and Nutrient Research (ICFNR), an institution exclusively devoted to promotion of research in fertilizer sector under the Department of fertilizers has been set up on 16.09.2016. ICFNR has a Governing Council under the chairmanship of Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers and an Executive Committee under the chairmanship of Secretary (Fertilizers). The terms of reference/ mandate of ICFNR is as under: -

- I. To undertake/ promote research in the area of fertilizer manufacturing technology, use of raw material and innovation in fertilizer products through partnership and collaboration with various research institutions, fertilizer industry and other stake holders.

- II. To examine and comprehensive deliberate R&D project proposals submitted by various R&D organizations/ Academic institutions, for suitable recommendations for funding.
- III. To play a supportive role for identifying and formulation long range technology plans and working out suitable mechanism for adoption of indigenous processes.
- IV. To identify and promote eco-friendly micro-nutrients and pesticide coated slow release fertilizers and also to ensure reduction of Carbon footprint of Fertilizer sector and energy efficient operation.
- V. To undertake and promote research in bio fertilizer and its derivatives with appropriate coating or blending so as to protect and increase soil fertility.
- VI. To undertake and promote research in organic fertilizer and its derivatives with suitable coating or blending so as to protect and increase soil fertility.
- VII. To promote dissemination of information on latest developments in fertilizer sector and also to support new ideas and changes for effecting improvements in fertilizer industry.
- VIII. The centre will work in close collaboration with research institutions/ centres/ institutes and will also decide and disseminate the research work already undertaken by them.

ICFNR is at nascent stage, however, as a follow up action on the decision taken in the first meeting of its Executive Committee held on 23.12.2016, three sub-groups have been constituted to look into specific proposals relating to “Promotion of bio-fertilizers”, “Development of eco-friendly micro-nutrients and pesticide coated controlled release fertilizers” and “Nano natural fertilizers” and submit their recommendations.
