

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

LOKSABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2080
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20TH DECEMBER, 2022

USE OF FERTILIZERS

2080. SHRI SHIVAKUMAR C. UDASI:
SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- the details of budget outlay for fertilizers during the last three years;
- the steps taken for balanced and integrated use of inorganic and organic fertilizers to maintain good soil health that results in increase in production;
- whether the Government is implementing any scheme about balanced use of fertilizers based on Soil Health Card recommendations and training to farmers on proper and integrated use of fertilizers and if so, the details thereof;
- the current status of Soil Health Card Scheme; and
- whether the Government provides financial assistance to States/UTs for training of farmers, demonstrations to farmers' fields and organising farmer melas about the balanced use of fertilizers and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): The details of budget outlay for fertilizers during the last three years are as under:
(Rs in Crore)

Subsidy Schemes	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 (BE)
Urea Subsidy Scheme	57099	99537	104870	67187
Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Phosphatic & Potassic (P&K) Scheme	26369	38990	57202	42600
Total Subsidy (Gross)	83468	138527	162072	109787

(b) to (c): Government has been implementing the Soil Health Card (SHC)/ Soil Health Management (SHM) scheme under National Project on Management Soil Health & Fertility since 2015 to provide soil test based fertilizer use recommendations periodically to the farmers in the country. Soil health card provides nutrient status of the soil along with prescription about balanced and integrated use of inorganic and organic fertilizers to maintain good soil health that results in increase in production. To augment soil samples testing capacity in the country so far, 12682 new soil testing labs (499 static, 113 mobile, 8811 mini labs and 2395 village level labs and strengthening of 864 existing labs) have been sanctioned to the states. From 2014-15 to 2021-22 total Rs.1335.68 crore has been released to State/UTs. Since 2015, around 6.45 lakh demonstrations, 93781 farmer's trainings & 7425 farmers melas and 79 workshops have been organized/conducted through the State Governments at Panchayat and village level under the Scheme. In Cycle- I (2015 to 2017), 10.74 crore and in Cycle- II (2017 to 2019), 11.97 crore grid based soil health cards have been distributed to farmers. In Model Village Programme (2019-20), 19.64 lakh and during the year 2020-21, 11.52 lakh land holdings based soil health cards have also been distributed to farmers. SHC based fertilizer use advisories are issued to farmers through State Government from time to time. Training to the farmers on proper and integrated use of fertilizers are integral part of the scheme and demonstrations about balanced use of fertilizers based on soil health card recommendations are also organized.

Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) is recommending soil test based fertilizer application through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources (manure, bio-fertilizers, green manuring, in-situ crop residue recycling etc.) of plant nutrients with 4R approaches i.e. right quantity, right time, right mode and right type of fertilizer in order to improve the quality of soil to increase crop production. In addition, growing leguminous crops and use of Resource Conservation Technologies (RCTs) are also advocated. ICAR has developed location specific bio-engineering soil & water conservation measure, land management techniques, soil reclamation measures for saline, alkali, waterlogged and acid soils, selection of suitable crop including agroforestry interventions to reclaim and develop barren lands. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) also imparts training, organizes front line demonstrations to educate farmers on these aspects. It also imparts training, organizes Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) etc. to educate farmers on all these aspects.

Government is focusing on creating awareness and education of the farmers about organic farming practices under the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development of North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) schemes.

(d): Soil Health Card (SHC) & Soil Health Management (SHM) Schemes of National Project on Management of Soil Health & Fertility has been merged as Soil Health & Fertility Component of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) from year 2022-23 and Budget Estimate (BE) of Rs.274.61 crore also been allocated under this component of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for the year 2022-23 for implementation of various activities during the year. An amount of Rs.13.59 core has been released during the current financial year under the Scheme so far.

(e): Yes Sir, the financial assistance is provided to State Governments for farmers training, demonstrations on farmer fields and organizing farmer Melas about the balanced use of fertilizers since, 2014-15 under the scheme. The details are as under:

Sr. No	Activities	Physical (in Numbers)	Financial (Rs. in crores)
1	Farmers training	93781	92.33
2	Demonstrations on farmer fields	645324	68.58
3	Organizing farmer Melas	7425	35.03
		Total	195.94
