

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 934
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13TH DECEMBER, 2022

OVER USE OF FERTILIZERS

934. DR. M.P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR SAGAR:
SHRI DULAL CHAND GOSWAMI:
SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKARO GAWALI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has analysed the issue of excessive use of fertilizers and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to control and regulate the use of fertilizers considering the damage caused to soil by excessive use of fertilizer and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to maintain the block-wise data of soil health and if so, the details of the action taken on the said issue;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to restrict or control the use of fertilizers considering the nature of soil and if so, the details of the action taken on the said issue;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to withdraw fertilizers subsidy and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the Government will take the necessary steps to promote organic fertilizers and strengthen the production and distribution of the same?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): In order to avoid excessive use and to promote balanced and integrated use of fertilizers, Soil Health Card Scheme had been introduced in 2015 to assist State Governments

to issue Soil Health Cards to farmers in the country. Soil Health Card provides information to farmers on nutrients status of their soil along with recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility. Possibility of excessive use of fertilizers generally arises when it is applied without proper assessment of nutrient requirement of crop, contribution from soil and other sources, nutrients use efficiency of the fertilizers, availability of assured irrigation, mode, method and time of applications and policy. The Government of India is suggesting soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources (manure, biofertilizers etc.) of plant nutrients to overcome indiscriminate/over use of fertilizers. In addition, split application and placement of fertilizers, use of slow releasing N-fertilizers and nitrification inhibitors, growing leguminous crops and use of Resource Conservation Technologies (RCTs) are also suggested. In order to promote use of organic fertilizers, Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has developed technology to prepare various types of organic manures such as phosphocompost, vermincompost, bio-enriched compost, municipal solid waste compost, etc. from various organic wastes. The ICAR also imparts training, organizes Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) etc. to educate farmers on all these aspects as and when required.

The block-wise data of Soil Health (Soil nutrients) is available on soil health card portal (<https://www.soilhealth.dac.gov.in/>) which is uploaded by States up to farm land holding level.

(e): At present, there is no such proposal to withdraw fertilizer subsidy.

(f): Government is implementing a Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana to promote organic fertilizers. Under this scheme, financial assistance @ Rs.050 lakh per hectare. for 3 years including Rs.0.31 lakh for organic inputs like, organic fertilizers; is provided to farmers. The Government is promoting soil health management awareness through organizing National / Regional workshops/ trainings on soil testing and as well as providing financial assistance for demonstration on nutrients need based balanced fertilization and use of organic manures/fertilizers. To involve the farmers in balanced use of fertilizers, they are provided training on awareness to understand the nutrient / fertilizer recommendations given in soil health card. Based on soil test, the farmers are motivated to use micronutrients recommended in the soil health card.
