

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2299
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 14TH MARCH, 2023

NATIONAL PROJECT OF SOIL HEALTH

2299. SHRI POCHA BRAHMANANDAREDDY:

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

- (a) the details of the goals of the National Project on Soil Health and Fertility;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Budget Estimates for the Project was Rs.350 crores for the year 2021-22; and
- (c) if so, the reasons why this was reduced to Rs.100 crores for the same time period?

ANSWER

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

(a): National Project on Soil Health and Fertility was a sub-scheme of National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) under Umbrella Scheme—Green Revolution-Krishonnati in “Agriculture Sector during 14th Finance Commission period. Now, it is being implemented as a Soil Health component of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) Scheme during 15th Finance Commission period. Soil Health component of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) Scheme is a continuing scheme with aim to promote soil test based Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) through conjunctive use of chemical fertilizers, organic fertilizers and bio-fertilizers. Promotion of INM system is expected to reduce consumption of chemical fertilizers and increase use of organic sources of plant nutrients, which in turn improve the soil fertility as well as nutrient use efficiency.

(b) & (c): Budget estimates are prepared by the department on the basis of actual release in the previous year and the estimated demand in the current year. However, the actual release of funds is dependent upon various enabling conditions like utilization of funds released earlier, submission of Utilization certificate, receipt of physical-financial progress, receipt of matching State share compliance by States /UT's of relevant Government of India guidelines etc. Non fulfillment of enabling conditions adversely affects the release funds to States/ UTs.

Due to various reasons, the demand of funds by states, compile in all aspects, and release of funds to States was slow during 2021-22, leading to reduction in allocation from Rs.350.00 Cr at BE Stage to Rs.100.00 Cr at RE stage.
