GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4963 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 31.03.2023

Diseases due to over use of Fertilizers

4963. SHRI G. M. SIDDESHWAR:

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

- (a) the quantum of export of fertilizers annually by India;
- (b) whether it is a fact that due to excess use of fertilizers in certain regions of the country, there is growing sign of non-communicable diseases like cancer; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI BHAGWANT KHUBA)

- (a): The quantum of export of fertilizers by India during 2020-21 was about 270 tonnes and 2021-22 about 144 tonnes.
- (b) & (c): Indian Council of Agriculture & Research (ICAR) informed that:

The nitrogen use efficiency of nitrogenous fertilizers varies between 30-50% depending on soil type and crop grown. Remaining nitrogen is lost mainly by way of nitrate leaching (causing nitrate contamination in ground water above the permissible limit of 10 mg NO₃-N /L).

Thus, ICAR recommends soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management practices through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources (compost, bio-fertilizers, green manure etc.), split application and placement of nitrogenous fertilizers, use of slow releasing N-fertilizers, nitrification inhibitors and use of neem coated urea etc. to avoid such situation."

To reduce dependency on fertilizers in agricultural production, Government has been implementing Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) schemes to promote organic farming since 2015-16. PKVY is implemented in all the States and Union Territories across the country to promote organic farming in cluster mode. Under the PKVY scheme, farmers are provided financial assistance of Rs 50000/ha for 3 years in which, Rs 31000/ha/3 years is provided directly to farmers through Direct

Benefit Transfer (DBT) for organic inputs such as seeds, bio fertilizers, bio-pesticides, organic manure, compost/vermi-compost, botanical extracts, etc. Under PKVY scheme, Government is providing assistance for training and capacity building of farmers on organic farming @ 7500/ha/farmer/3 years. A low cost Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification has been launched by Government for development of domestic organic market. Under the Scheme, farmers are assisted @ 2700/ha/3 years for certification. In addition, assistance is provided @8800/ha/3years for value addition, marketing and brand building. Under MOVCDNER scheme, assistance is provided @ Rs. 32500/ha/3 years to farmers for procurement/on-farm production organic inputs including organic fertilizers. Further, use of Nano Urea is being promoted through different activities such as awareness camps, webinars, nukkad nataks, field demonstrations, kisan sammelans and films in regional languages, etc.
