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

(a) the present status and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to promote the PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness Generation, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother Earth (PM-PRANAM) to promote use of nutrient based bio-fertilizers for sustainable agriculture in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that under this scheme the Government intends to incentivize States to promote the use of sustainable alternative fertilizers, balanced use of chemical fertilizers and also help reduce the use of chemical fertilizers in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any targets have been set by the Union Government for the States to promote PM-PRANAM across the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the amount of fund(s) allocated/utilized to/by the States, State-wise; and

(f) the details of the progress made/achieved so far in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f): The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 28th June, 2023 has approved the “PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness Generation, Nourishment, and Amelioration of Mother-Earth (PM-PRANAM)”. The initiative aims to complement the efforts initiated by States/UTs to save the health of Mother Earth by promoting sustainable and balanced use of fertilizers, adopting alternate fertilizers, promoting organic farming and implementing resource conservation technologies. The PM-PRANAM scheme is operational for a period of three years (FY 2023-24 to FY 2025-26). Guidelines of PM PRANAM have been circulated to the States, against which States/UTs have prepared action plans. Further, regular meetings are undertaken with the States/UTs for promotion of balanced use of fertilizers, use of
alternate fertilizer like nano/bio/organic fertilizers etc. Also, promotion of PM-PRANAM scheme has been included as one of the activity under the Viksit Bharat SankalpYatra (VBSY) which was launched on 15th November, 2023. Department of Fertilizers is also promoting the scheme through different platforms.

There is no separate budget for PM-PRANAM scheme. However, savings in subsidy on account of reduced fertilizer consumption will be passed on to the States/UTs for taking up State specific programmes. Further, the scheme has been made operational from current Financial Year (FY) 2023-24. Savings for the current FY 2023-24 can only be computed after the end of current FY 2023-24.

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