

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UN STARRED QUESTION NO. 3333 TO BE ANSWERED ON : 16.03.2021

Use of Nanotechnology in Fertilizers

3333. DR. SANJEEV KUMAR SINGARI:

Will the Minister of **CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS** be pleased to state?

- (a) whether the Government is planning to promote nanotechnology in fertilizers, in order to prevent soil degradation due to excessive use of fertilizers in many States;
- (b) if so, the details of nanotechnology fertilizer products in the country;
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to preserve soil fertility; and
- (d) the details of the existing schemes of the Government to promote fertilizers industry in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS

(SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

(a) & (b): At present there is no such proposal for promoting nanotechnology in fertilizers. However, it is the endeavor of the Government of India to encourage the innovations in the field of agriculture. Recently, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare has notified Nano Urea as Nano-Nitrogen fertilizers in Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985.

(c): Following steps have been taken by the Government to preserve the soil fertility and to create awareness among farmers for the balanced use of fertilizers:

- i. 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 etc.) of plant nutrient to promote balanced use of fertilizers. ICAR also imparts training, organizes Frontline Demonstration (FLDs) etc. to educate farmers on this aspect.
- ii. Under Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme, financial assistance is provided to State Governments for training of farmers @ Rs 24,000/- per training for 2days with 30 or more participants. So far 36,928 farmer training has been sanctioned to States.
- iii. Financial Assistance is also provided for organizing farmer melas/campaigns @ Rs.1.00 lakh per farmer mela/campaign. So far, 7425 farmer melas/campaigns have been sanctioned to States.

(d): In order to promote the fertilizer industry in the country, Department of Fertilizers has implemented the following schemes:

- i. Urea Subsidy: Urea is being provided to the farmers at a statutorily notified Maximum Retail Price (MRP). The difference between the delivered cost of urea at farm gate and net market realization by the urea units is given as subsidy to the urea manufacturer/importer by the Government.
- ii. Nutrient Based Subsidy: The Government has implemented Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy w.e.f 1.4.2010 for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) Fertilizers. Under the policy, a fixed amount of subsidy, decided on annual basis, is provided on P&K fertilizers depending on their nutrient content.
- iii. Policy on Promotion of City Compost: The Government of India has notified a Policy on Promotion of City Compost on 10.02.2016 under which Market Development Assistance (MDA) of Rs. 1500/- per MT has been provided to manufacturers / marketers for scaling up production and consumption of city compost.
