

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3425 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 16.03.2021

Setting up of ICFNR

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

- (a) whether the Government has set up Indian Council for Fertilizers and Nutrient Research (ICFNR) to promote research in the field of fertilizers;
- (b) if so, the main functions and terms of reference of ICFNR along with the extent to which the objective of the setting up of ICFNR has been achieved;
- (c) whether the ICFNR is collaborating with various research institutes, fertilizer industry and other stakeholders to undertake/promote research in the area of fertilizer manufacturing technology and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the functioning of ICFNR has ensured that farmers get good quality fertilizers at affordable rates and if so, the number of farmers who have benefitted, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS.

(SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

(a): With a view to promote research in the field of fertilizers, Indian Council for Fertilizers and Nutrient Research (ICFNR) was set up on 16.09.2016 under the Department of Fertilizers.

(b).: The terms of reference of ICFNR are as under: -

- i. To undertake/ promote research in the area of fertilizer manufacturing technology, use of raw material and innovation in fertilizer products through partnership and collaboration with various research institutions, fertilizer industry and other stakeholders.

- ii. To examine and comprehensive deliberate R&D project proposals submitted by various R&D organizations/ Academic institutions, for suitable recommendations for funding.
- iii. To play a supportive role for identifying and formulation long range technology plans and working out suitable mechanism for adoption of indigenous processes.
- iv. To identify and promote eco-friendly micro-nutrients and pesticide coated slow release fertilizers and also to ensure reduction of Carbon footprint of Fertilizer sector and energy efficient operation.
- v. To undertake and promote research in bio fertilizer and its derivatives with suitable coating or blending so as to protect and increase the soil fertility.
- vi. To promote dissemination of information on latest developments in fertilizer sector and also to support new ideas and changes for effecting improvements in fertilizer industry.
- vii. The centre will work in close collaboration with research institutions centres/ institutes and will also decide and disseminate the research work already undertaken by them.
- viii. To undertake all such activities which will promote the core idea of ICFNR.

(c).: No Sir, ICFNR has not collaborated with any research institutes, fertilizer industry and other stakeholders to undertake/promote research.

(d).: Due to certain operational issues, fertilizer CPSEs under the administrative control of Department of Fertilizers were advised to explore the possibility of forming a separate body in place of ICFNR. Accordingly, fertilizer CPSEs formed a society called "Indian Council for Fertilizers & Fertilizers Technology Research (ICFFTR)" and got it registered under Societies Registration Act 1860 on 19.08.2019. The main objective of ICFFTR is to promote research work in the field of fertilizers to enable farmers to reap the benefits in future.
