

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LokSABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1522
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7TH DECEMBER, 2021

FERTILITY OF SOIL

1522. SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE:

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

(a) whether the fertility of soil is being affected due to use of insecticides and low grade fertilizers in agriculture;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government has done/proposes to do any evaluation of the side effects of insecticides and low grade fertilizers on the fertility of soil; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): The Government allows fertilizers which are enlisted in Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985 for safe use in agriculture. These fertilizers are tested for their agronomic efficacy, economic viability before their inclusion in FCO, 1985. Clause 19 of FCO strictly prohibits the manufacture and sale of fertilizer which are not of prescribed standards. Besides, farmers are provided Soil Health Cards which recommends appropriate dosage of nutrients/fertilizers based on soil deficiency in their soil for dominant crops of a particular reason.

Integrated Pest management (IPM) is being promoted and major emphasis is given to train farmers through Farmers Field School (FFS) on safe and judicious use of pesticides based on Agro Eco System Analysis (AESAs) decision making so as to avoid unnecessary use of pesticides and protect soil health. 35 Central IPM centers in 28 States and 2 UTs are conducting various activities viz. (FFS); two days and five days HRD programmes and 30 days' Season Long Training Programmes (SLTP) to educate and train farmers and extension functionaries as well as pesticide dealers on the use of bio-pesticides to manage the crop pests. These practices are able to prevent the soil micro-fauna which conserve soil texture and fertility.
