

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

**LOKSABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2741**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 02<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST, 2022

**IMPROVEMENT OF SOIL HEALTH**

2741. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to start any programme to improve the health of the soil and consequently increase the production;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any guidelines have been issued to the farmers from time to time regarding the health of the soil; and
- (d) whether any training has been given to the farmers regarding proper use of fertilizers to improve soil quality?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री ( SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR )

(a) & (b): Government is implementing Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme since 2015 to provide soil test based fertilizer use recommendations periodically to the farmers in the country. Soil health card provides nutrient status of the soil along with prescription about balanced and integrated use of inorganic and organic fertilizers to maintain good soil health that results in increase in production.

Apart from SHC, Government is also implementing Soil Health Management (SHM) scheme to augment soil samples testing capacity in the country through setting up / strengthening of soil testing laboratories. So far, 12682 new soil testing labs (499 static,

113 mobile, 8811 mini labs and 2395 village level labs) and strengthening of 864 existing labs have been sanctioned to the states.

(c) & (d): SHC based fertilizer use advisories are issued to farmers through State Government from time to time. Demonstrations about balanced use of fertilizers based on soil health card recommendations and training to the farmers on proper and integrated use of fertilizers are integral part of the scheme. Financial assistance is provided to State Governments for training of farmers, demonstrations on farmer fields and organizing farmer melas.

Since 2015, around 6.45 lakh demonstrations, 93781 farmer's trainings and 7425 farmers melas and 79 workshops have been organized/conducted through the State Governments under the Scheme at Panchayat and village level. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) also imparts training, organizes front line demonstrations to educate farmers on these aspects.

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