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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2617

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 05TH AUGUST, 2025

SUGARCANE CROP ADVISORIES

2617. SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE:

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

- (a) the details and number of farmers in Hatkanangale district who have received Soil Health Cards with specific reference to sugarcane crop advisories;
- (b) whether field-level implementation has resulted in improved yield or reduction in fertilizer misuse if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of follow-up extension services provided to sugarcane farmers under this initiative?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

- (a): Government of Maharashtra has informed that 4,566 Soil Health Cards (SHCs) have been distributed to sugarcane farmers in Hatkanangale taluka.
- (b): National Productivity Council (NPC), New Delhi carried out a study 'Soil Testing Infrastructure for Faster Delivery of SHC in India' in 2017 in 76 districts of 19 States including Maharashtra covering 170 soil testing labs and 1700 farmers. As a result of application of fertilizer and micro-nutrients as per SHC recommendations, there has been a decrease of use of chemical fertilizer application in the range of 8-10% was found. Overall 5-6% increase in the yield of crops was reported, due to application of fertilizer and micro nutrients as per SHC. Government of Maharashtra has also informed that SHC has enabled farmers to use fertilizers in the right quantities which result in increased production.
- (c): State Government of Maharashtra has informed that extension services like field demonstrations of high-yielding, disease-resistant and climate-resilient sugarcane varieties were conducted. Distribution of quality planting material (e.g., single bud chip technology, tissue culture plantlets/seedlings) are undertaken to ensure healthy crop. Sugarcane was promoted to use as a biofuel and organic manure. Support and subsidies for developing sugarcane nurseries were given to ensure availability of quality setts. Workshops were conducted on interpreting Soil Health Cards and implementing its recommendations. Sessions on composting, residue management and biofertilizer use were also conducted.
