

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 120 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 02.02.2024

Effects of Fertilizers in Agricultural Land in Ladakh

120. SHRI JAMYANG TSERING NAMGYAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any data/records on the benefits/side effects of chemical fertilizers in agricultural land in Ladakh and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take any remedial steps to minimize the use of chemical fertilizers for maintaining the fertility of land in Ladakh;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of the kinds of chemical fertilizers that the Government has allowed for use in Ladakh;
- (e) whether the Government has conducted any survey regarding the benefit/side effects of the use of chemical fertilizers in Ladakh; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS

(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)

(a): No Sir. There is no particular data/records available on the benefits/side effects of chemical fertilizers in agricultural land in Ladakh. However, after restrictions on the use of chemical fertilizers and introduction of organic fertilizers in Ladakh, the quality of the produces and fertility status of the land has improved at field level by providing the vermi-compost organic manure and vermi-compost pit to the farmers from different agencies/departments.

(b) & (c): The Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) and the UT Administration have undertaken a flagship program "Mission Organic Development Initiative of Ladakh" to certify Ladakh as organic by 2025. The programme was launched on 4 July, 2000.

(d): No chemical fertilizer is allowed under organic system.

(e) & (f): A survey conducted in 2019 suggested that farmers perceived that the use of chemical fertilizers affected both soil and human health. Most farmers (60.7%) believed that chemical fertilizers affect soil health while 25.4% of farmers believed that they affect human health adversely.
