

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3451

ANSWERED ON:11.12.2000

MOBILE SOIL TESTING LABORATORIES

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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is any scheme to provide grants to States for setting up of Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the allocation made for the purpose during the last three years, State-wise;
- (d) the details of the proposals received from various states for setting up of such labs, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken to clear the proposals?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a) to (e) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation in Govt. of India has been making available financial assistance, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilizers', to States/UTs for strengthening of existing soil testing laboratories and also for establishment of new static soil testing laboratories. However, the scheme has no provision for extending financial assistance for establishment of mobile soil testing laboratories.

Thus, following proposals received for setting up mobile soil testing laboratories have not been found feasible by this Department for providing financial assistance under Centrally Sponsored Scheme Balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilizers.

- i) Karnataka 10 mobile soil testing labs
- ii) Andhra Pradesh 4 mobile soil testing labs
- iii) Bihar 1 mobile soil testing lab
- iv) Tripura 3 mobile soil testing labs

However, this scheme has now been subsumed in macro management mode of implementation which envisages release of funds as per work plans of the States/UTs. The States/UTs have flexibility of inclusion of proposals for setting up mobile soil testing laboratories in their work plans which the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation supports.