GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1243
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007
USE OF CHEMICAL FERTILISERS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether continuous use of chemical fertilizers has a deleterious effects on soil fertility;

(b) whether to increase the foodgrain production, the farmers are using excess of nitrogenous fertilizers causing damage to agriculture;

(c) if so, steps taken to educate the farmers about judicious use of chemical fertilizers;

(d) whether organic food has good nutrient value;

(e) if so, measures taken to make farmers aware of the use of organic nutrients to produce nutrient food;

(f) whether any research has been conducted by Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) regarding soil fertility; and

(g) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): The per hectare consumption of chemical fertilizers in the country during 2005-06 is 105 Kg. There is no scientific evidence of declining soil fertility due to use of chemical fertilizers.

(b): Use of nitrogenous fertilizers alone may create deficiencies of other nutrients affecting soil health and crop productivity. Excess use of nitrogenous fertilizers may cause imbalance of nutrients. Therefore, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) recommends Nitrogen, Phosphorous & Potash in the ratio of 4:2:1 at the Macro Level.

(c): To educate the farmers about the judicious use of chemical fertilizers ICAR is imparting training, organizing workshops and lying field demonstration etc. on INM.

(d): Yes, Sir.

(e): The Government is promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) advocating soil test based Balanced Use of Fertilizers in conjunction with organic sources of nutrients like compost, vermin compost, farm yard manure, green manuring etc. and bio fertilizers.

(f)&(g): ICAR through its All India Coordinated Research Projects on
(i) `Macro & Secondary nutrients`
(ii) Soil Test Crop Response and
(iii) Long Term Fertilizer Experiments is giving due attention towards soil fertility related issues.