

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6223
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2012
FERTILIZER EDUCATION PROJECTS
Tagore Shri Manicka

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched fertilizer education projects for the benefit of farmers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the amount allocated for such education projects during each of the last three years; and
- (d) the number of farmers benefitted through these education projects?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): The Government under a National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility is creating awareness and educating farmers on judicious use of fertilizers. This is based on soil test-based balanced and integrated nutrient management (INM). Training and field demonstrations are conducted towards sustenance of soil health and higher crop productivity. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and some fertilizer companies also undertake such activities from time to time as part of their extension activities.

(c) & (d): The amounts allotted under the National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 are Rs. 91.0, 18.9 and 38.9 lakhs, respectively. Over 49,000 farmers have been benefitted under this project during the last three years. Indian Institute of Soil Science under ICAR conducted 18 farmers' training programmes benefitting 435 farmers on these aspects during last three years, with Rs. 16.2 lakhs funded by different agencies.