

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:118
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013
JUDICIOUS USE OF FERTILISERS
Siricilla Shri Rajaiah

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Krishi Vigyan Kendras are involved in educating the farmers on judicious use of fertilisers/pesticides in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether extensive and indiscriminate use of fertilisers have reduced the yield of certain crops in some areas of the country;
- (d) if so, the locations thereof alongwith the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage the use of manures for boosting agricultural production?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 118 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05/03/2013 REGARDING "JUDICIOUS USE OF FERTILISERS"

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) As part of their activities, the Krishi Vigyan Kendras are also educating farmers on judicious use of fertilizers/pesticides through integrated nutrient and pest management. During the current year, as many as 13,163 training programmes, 1491 on-farm trials, 25,344 frontline demonstrations, 1.64 lakh extension activities and 7692 kisan mobile advisory have been organised on these aspects which benefitted 30.64 lakh farmers.

(c) & (d) : Investigations carried out under All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on 'Long-Term Fertilizer Experiments' in different soil and crop types at fixed sites revealed deterioration of soil health and reduction in crop productivity due to imbalanced use of fertilizers over years. However, no location/area and crop specific quantification of yield reduction due to indiscriminate use of fertilizers is available in the country. The Government is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources of plant nutrients as corrective measures.

(e) The Council has developed improved technology for preparation of enriched/vermi compost from various organic wastes. The Government through National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility (NPMSHF), National Horticulture Mission(NHM), National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) is promoting use of manures/composts throughout the country. The Council also organizes trainings, on-farm trials and frontline demonstrations on use of manures. Besides, awareness on use of manures is being created among farmers through KVKs, Agricultural Technology Information Centres, Kisan Call Centres, Agricultural Technology Management Agencies, Agri-clinics, farm based programmes on Radio & TV and other extension activities.