

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4037
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2009
SOIL TESTING LABORATORIES
Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to establish soil testing laboratories/mobile soil testing laboratories in the country during the 11th Five Year Plan period;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the locations identified in the country, Statewise including Orissa;
- (c) the details of the funds allocated and the expenditure incurred so far in establishing such laboratories; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the targets fixed for the 11th Plan period?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Government of India has introduced a new scheme, namely, 'National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility' (NPMSF) from 2008-09. The components of new scheme include setting up of 500 new static Soil Testing Laboratories (STLs) and setting up of 250 mobile STLs during 11th Five Year Plan. The locations of STLs are identified by the State Governments.

(c) & (d): The details of funds released upto 10.12.2009 for setting up of static and mobile STLs are at Annexure. Proposals are invited from States every year to achieve the target fixed for the 11th Plan period.