

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:248
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2014
STUDY ON USE OF FERTILIZERS
Solanki Dr. Kirit Premjibhai

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken any study to determine fertilizer usage trends in the country and their long-term impact on agriculture and the environment;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to modify the fertilizer subsidy scheme in order to curb irrational usage of chemical fertilizers and bio-fertilizers instead;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a) & (b): A study on the impact of NBS policy had been conducted inter-alia covering fertilizer usage trends in the country. The draft report of the study indicates that in the post-NBS period imbalance in the application of P&K fertilizers relation to the use of Urea has been observed in some regions of the Country.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research under All India Coordinated Research Project on 'Long-Term Fertilizer Experiments' has also assessed the soil health and crop productivity in different soil types (fixed locations) under dominant cropping systems. The investigation over the last few decades indicated that continuous use of nitrogenous fertilizer alone produced the highest decline in crop yields at almost all the locations showing deficiencies of other nutrients. Even in NPK fertilized system, the deficiency of micro and secondary nutrients surfaced after few years affecting crop productivity. Only integrated use of optimal dose of NPK and organic manure maintained soil health/quality with higher crop productivity.

(c) to (e): At present, there is no proposal to modify the present Nutrient Based Subsidy Scheme for Phosphatic and Potassic Fertilizers. However, the Government is already encouraging use of bio-fertilizers alongwith chemical fertilizers for increased productivity and balanced fertilization of soil.