

Setting up of KVKs in Chhattisgarh

†1622. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to open eight Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in Chhattisgarh although there are already eight KVKs under agriculture colleges over there; and

(b) whether additional grant has been sought from the Central Government for useful machinery for crop residue management so that requirement of zero till seed drill, happy machine seeder racks, straw-chopper, bale straw reaper can be fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved during Twelfth Plan for establishment of KVKs in eight districts of Chhattisgarh including Balod, Sukma, Kondagaon, Raipur, Mungeli, Surajpur, Bemetara and Durg (additional KVK) districts. Out of eight districts, KVKs have been setup in five districts including Surajpur, Mungeli, Bemetara, Durg and Raipur under the Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur. The process has already been started for opening KVKs in remaining three districts during 2017-18 to 2019-20.

(b) Yes, Sir. The additional funds have been sought by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare from the Central Government for promotion of different machinery for in-situ management of crop residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Impact of Neem Coated Urea

1623. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Neem Coated Urea (NCU) has been made mandatory for all urea manufacturers in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that all urea imported by Government is also neem coated;

(c) whether any urea is imported by private sector or imported by Government on private account;

(d) if so, whether such urea is also mandatorily neem-coated;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (e) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether Government has conducted a study to find out the impact of NCU; and
- (g) if so, the outcome of the study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (e) Government of India has now made it mandatory for manufacturers to produce 100% Neem Coated Urea from May, 2015 and from December, 2015, the imported urea is also required to be coated with neem oil. Kharif, 2016 was the first season when the entire Urea consumed was the Neem Coated.

(f) and (g) A study titled 'Impact of Neem Coated Urea (NCU) on Production, Productivity and Soil Health in India' was entrusted to the Agricultural Development and Rural Transformation Centre (ADRTC), Bengaluru. The findings of the Report on the impact of NCU are as under:-

- (i) a majority of the sample farmers have observed an improvement in the yield levels with respect to all crops and their by-products;
- (ii) An improvement in soil quality post NCU application.

Further, as per the National Productivity Council Study on 'Soil Testing Infrastructure for Faster Delivery of Soil Health Card in India', the use of NCU has resulted in lower consumption of fertiliser by about 4-5% with lower incidence of pests and diseases with higher yields to the tune of 5-6%.

Fishery resources in Indian EEZs

1624. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of potential yearly yield of fishery resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs); and
- (b) the statistics of yearly extraction of fishery resources of the last five years from Indian EEZs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) The Working Group constituted by the Government of India for Revalidating the Potential of Fishery Resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) has revalidated the potential yield of the fishery resources in the Indian EEZs as 44,11,687 tonnes. Summary of the fishery potentials in the different realms are given below:-