

weekly video conferencing with the States authorities at various levels. The Central Government does not have any proposal for imposing hefty fines on the errant farmers. However, the State Governments are imposing Environmental Compensation as per the directions of National Green Tribunal.

#### **Impact of urea based fertilizers on agricultural land**

672. SHRI M.D. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken studies on the harmful impact of urea based fertilizers on soil;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when Government would undertake such studies; and

(c) whether Government is considering mass scale production and implementation of eco-friendly organic alternatives for urea based fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under All India Coordinated Research Project on 'Long-Term Fertilizer Experiments' in different centres located in different states on various soil types (fixed locations) under dominant cropping systems revealed that imbalanced use of fertilizer over the years may cause multi-nutrient deficiencies in soil affecting soil health and crop productivity. Even in plots receiving only NPK fertilizers, the deficiency of micro and secondary nutrients is observed. The limiting nutrients do not allow the full expression of other nutrients, thereby, lowering the fertilizer responses and crop productivity. Highest decline in crop yield was observed in plots receiving only nitrogen.

(c) To encourage the production and implementation of eco friendly organic inputs/ fertilizers/bio-fertilizers, the Government of India is promoting organic farming and providing incentives/ assistance to the farmers for the organic inputs under the following schemes:

- Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY):

Assistance of ₹ 50,000 per hectare for 3 years is provided, out of which ₹ 31,000 (62%) is given to the farmers directly through DBT, for inputs (bio-fertilizers, biopesticides, vermicompost, botanical extracts, etc.) production/ procurement, post harvest management etc.

- Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER): Under the scheme, the farmers are given assistance of ₹ 25000/ ha/ 3 years for both on-farm and off-farm organic inputs, and seeds/planting material.
- Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme (CISS): Government of India promotes:
  - (i) Production of bio-fertilizers by providing 100% assistance to State Govt./ Govt. Agencies up to a maximum limit of ₹ 160.00 lakh/ unit for setting up of State of art liquid/ carrier based Bio-fertilizer units of 200 Ton Per Annum (TPA) capacity. Similarly, for individuals/ private agencies assistance up to 25% of cost limited to ₹ 40 lakh/unit as capital investment is provided through NABARD.
  - (ii) Setting up of mechanized Fruit/ Vegetable market waste/ Agro waste compost production unit of 3000 Ton Per Annum (TPA) production capacity by providing 100% assistance to State Govt./ Govt. Agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹ 190.00 lakh/ unit for establishment of large mechanized compost plants. Similarly, for individuals/ private agencies assistance up to 33% of cost limited to ₹ 63 lakh/unit as capital investment is provided through NABARD.

#### **Credit linkage for project based activities**

673. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the assistance extended under the project based activities with the credit linkages;
- (b) whether it is a fact that credit linkage is poor in Odisha due to which the achievements under the project based activities is not satisfactory in the State; and
- (c) if so, whether the Ministry would consider to relax the credit linkage for the project based activities upto ₹ 25 lakhs?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Some schemes being implemented by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) that are project-based with credit linkages:

- (i) Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM).