

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-484
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05/02/2021

PROBLEMS IN TESTING OF SPECIMEN BY INSTITUTES FOR SEED AND FERTILIZER

484 Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of institutes for testing of seeds and fertilizers in the country along with the details thereof;
- (b) the total amount spent on the said institutes during last three years along with the total testing work carried out by them;
- (c) whether several problems are being faced in testing of specimen in the said institutes due to the shortage of sufficient staff and equipments; and
- (d) if so, the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard and the target fixed for specimen testing by the said institutes during last three years and the current year?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): This department has set-up Central Seed Testing Laboratory (CSTL), National Seed Research & Training Centre (NSRTC), Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) is working for testing of 5% seeds of seed samples tested by State Seeds Testing Laboratories (STLs).

For testing of fertilizers, this Department has set up following Central Laboratories:-

- (i) **Organic Fertilizer Testing Laboratories** - 7 Regional Centers of Organic Farming (RCOFs) located at Ghaziabad, Panchkula, Jabalpur, Nagpur, Bangalore, Bhubaneswar and Imphal.
- (ii) **Chemical Fertilizer Testing Laboratories** – 4 Laboratories located at Faridabad, Chennai, Navi Mumbai and Kalyani.

(b): The details of amount spent on CSTL and seed testing work carried out at CSTL, NSRTC during last three years is as under:

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S. No.	Year	Total amount spent (Rs. in crore)	Total numbers of Seed samples analysed
1.	2017-18	2.79	20,795
2.	2018-19	4.24	19,812
3.	2019-20	2.35	20,334

The total expenditure over Fertilizer Testing Laboratories for the last three years is as under:--

Amount(Rs. in crore)

Year	Organic Fertilizer Testing Laboratories	Chemical Fertilizer Testing Laboratories
2017-2018	1717.53	7.472
2018-2019	2040.39	7.258
2019-2020	992.61	5.974

Details of samples analysis for the last 3 years is as under:-

Year	No. of samples of Organic fertilizer Tested	No. of samples of Chemical fertilizer Tested
2017-18	1785	3654
2018-19	1193	3742
2019-20	1049	3723

(c). & (d) : Under the Seeds (Control) Order, 1983 and Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985, it is the prime responsibility of the State Governments to ensure the quality Seeds & fertilizer are made available to farmers as per the prescribed specifications.

However, all the central laboratories achieved the target assigned by the Central Government or the State Government despite constraints of staff. Modernization and up-gradation of labs is however a continuous process.
