

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 663**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 08/12/2023

**ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES**

663#. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

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

- (a) whether the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides has a dangerous effect on humans, animals, birds and fertility of soil;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any special action in the budget provisions to promote the use of organic fertilizers by farmers to increase the production and use of organic fertilizers in view of the adverse effects of chemical fertilizers in the last five years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): The Registration Committee (RC) constituted under section 5 of the Insecticide Act, 1968, registers the pesticides for use in the country after evaluation of their safety and efficacy. The registered pesticide do not pose any harm to human beings, animals, environment and living organisms other than pests, if they are used as per the label leaflet approved by the Registration Committee. Similarly, Government of India is advocating the balanced and judicious use of fertiliser on soil test based recommendation in conjunction with organic sources (manure, biofertilizers etc.) of plant nutrients to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers preventing deterioration of soil health, environment and contamination of groundwater.

(c) & (d): The Government of India is implementing various schemes in order to promote the use of organic fertilizers by the farmers, the details of the schemes are as under:

- (i) Market Development Assistance (MDA) to Compressed Bio Gas Plants for sale of Fermented Organic Manure (FOM)/Liquid Fermented Organic Manure (LFOM) & Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM): Based on the budget announcement and the recommendations of the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC), the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 28th June, 2023 approved the Market Development Assistance (MDA) to promote Organic Fertilizers. Support under MDA @₹ 1,500/MT which will be given only for the manure produced at plants under umbrella GOBARdhan initiative covering different Biogas/CBG support schemes/programmes of stakeholder Ministries/Departments such as Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) scheme of MoPNG, 'Waste to Energy' programme of MNRE, Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) of DDWS, etc. with total outlay of ₹ 1,451.84 Crore (FY 2023-24 to 2025-26), which includes a corpus of ₹360 Crore for research gap funding, etc.”
- (ii) PM-PRANAM Scheme: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 28th June, 2023 has approved the “PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness Generation, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother-Earth (PM-PRANAM)”. The initiative aims to complement the efforts initiated by States/UTs to save the health of Mother Earth by promoting sustainable and balanced use of fertilizers, adopting alternate fertilizers, promoting organic farming and implementing resource conservation technologies. The PM-PRANAM scheme is operational for a period of three years (FY 2023-24 to FY 2025-26). Under the said scheme, 50% of the fertilizer subsidy saved by a State/UT in a particular financial year by way of reduction in consumption of chemical fertilizers (Urea, DAP, NPK, MOP) compared to previous 3 years' average consumption, will be passed on to that State/UT as Grant.
- (iii) Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain development in North East Region (MOVCDNER): Government of India is implementing dedicated schemes for promotion of organic farming in the country viz. Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North East Region (MOVCDNER) since 2015-16. Under these schemes, farmers are encouraged to take up organic cultivation using organic inputs and the schemes provide end-to-end support to farmers i.e. from production to marketing of organic produce. Hands on training to farmers about on-farm production of organic fertilizers and its use are integral part of these schemes. Farmers are provided a subsidy of Rs 31000/ha/3years under PKVY and Rs. 32500/ha/3 years under MOVCDNER for various organic inputs. An amount of Rs 684.84 Crores has been earmarked for promotion of organic farming for the year 2023-24.
- (iv) ICAR has developed improved and efficient strains of biofertilizers specific to different crops and soil types to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers in agricultural production. In addition, split application and placement of fertilizers, use of slow releasing N-fertilizers and nitrification inhibitors, growing leguminous crops and use of Resource Conservation Technologies (RCTs) are also advocated. ICAR also imparts trainings to different stakeholders, organizes front-line demonstrations, awareness programs etc. to educate farmers on all these aspects.

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