

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1643
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2006
EXCESS USE OF FERTILIZERS AND INSECTICIDES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the farmers are using fertilizers and insecticides in excess than required;
- (b) if so, whether any organized efforts are being made to educate the farmers about the hazards caused by excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides and also about the optimum utilization of ground water and other production enhancing resources; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a): The average per hectare consumption of Chemical Fertilizer Nutrients and insecticides (technical grade) are 96.59 Kg./ha. and 0.22 Kg. /ha. respectively. This level of consumption is not considered as excessive and should not have any ill effect on agriculture. However, inequitable or excess use of fertilizer in certain crops and areas, may cause falling organic carbon contents and deficiencies of certain major, secondary and micro nutrients in soils in some parts of the country especially, rice-wheat belt of Indo-Gangetic plains due to continuous imbalanced use of chemical fertilizers without organic manures.

(b)&(c): The following steps have been taken by the Government:-

- i) Promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) based on soil test for balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizer in conjunction with organic fertilizers like Farm Yard Manure, Green manure, compost vermicompost and biofertilizers etc. through State Governments under Centrally Sponsored Scheme `Balanced and Integrated use of Fertilizers`
- ii) Has launched `National Project on Organic Farming` as a corrective measure for balanced fertilization.
- iii) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is also advocating Integrated Plant Nutrients Supply System (IPNS) for different crops/cropping system under various agro ecological region of the country.
- iv) Promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach through Farmers` Field Schools in order to minimise the indiscriminate and injudicious use of chemical pesticides.