

FERTILITY OF AGRICULTURAL LAND

27th February, 2015

RSQ 488

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD

Will the Minister of **AGRICULTURE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has evaluated the fertility of soil/arable land across the country, if so, the norms adopted for the purpose and the extent of micronutrients deficiency noticed in Karnataka, district-wise;
- (b) the details of the schemes and projects under implementation to check the declining fertility of agricultural land and improve the fertility of soil for increasing agricultural production in the country including Karnataka; and
- (c) the success achieved thereunder during the current year?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

(a): Indian Institute of Soil Science (IISS), Bhopal has prepared GPS (Global Positioning System) and GIS (Geographic Information System) based digital soil fertility maps of 173 districts adopting norms of stratified complete random sampling process. Extent of micronutrients deficiency noticed in Karnataka, district-wise is given at annexure.

(b): To improve fertility of soil in the country including Karnataka. Government is implementing the following schemes/projects:-

(i) Soil Health Management (SHM) programme under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) assists State Governments in following components:-

- (a) Setting up of static/mobile soil testing laboratories (STLs)
- (b) Strengthening of static/mobile STLs.
- (c) Trainings and demonstrations on balanced use of fertilizers.

(ii) In current year, Soil Health Card Scheme is introduced to assist State Governments to issue soil health cards to all farmers in the country. Soil health card will provide information to farmers on nutrients status of their soil along with recommendation on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility. Soil status will be assessed regularly in cycle of 3 years so that nutrient deficiencies are identified and amendments applied.

(c): Under SHM programme, during the current year, 9 new static Soil Testing Laboratories (STLs), 56 new mobile STLs, strengthening of 2 STLs have been sanctioned to States apart from 354 trainings and 420 demonstrations.

Under 'Soil Health Card' scheme, a sum of Rs.23.59 crore has been released to States towards soil sampling, training and awareness creation.

Annexure

District-wise extent of micronutrients deficiency noticed in Karnataka

Districts	Zinc	Iron	Copper	Manganese	Boron
(% samples deficient)					
Mandya	90	0	0	0	51
Ramnagaram	23	0	0	0	48
Banglore Rural	18	0	0	0	77
Chikballapura	57	0	0	0	67

Chitradurga	86	1	0	0	87
Kolar	13	0	0	0	100
Mysore	56	2	0	0	89
Tumkur	88	0	0	0	98
Hassan	68	0	0	0	100