

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6070
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2003
NEEM BASED FERTILIZER
KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU;VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Neem has been proved to be an organic and eco-friendly fertilizer which has increased crop yields to a large extent;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether extensive tests have been conducted in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) by when neem mixed urea is likely to be used in large scale in the country;
- (f) whether the Government have secured any overseas assistance and technical know-how to develop the neem based pesticides and manures; and
- (g) if so, the details of prototype production facilities set up so far?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

- (a) & (b): The yield increases with Neem Mixed Fertilizers are marginal (4-7 %) and inconsistent.
- (c) & (d) : No Sir. Limited multi-locational trials have been conducted on few crops like rice, wheat and maize.
- (e) At present, some companies are producing and marketing Neem Coated Urea and Neem Coating Agents on a limited scale.The large scale use of neem mixed or coated urea would depend on its field performance, pricing and availability of neem extracts.
- (f) & (g): Yes Sir. As informed by the Ministry of Chemicals and Petrochemicals they are executing one UNDP sponsored collaborative programme to develop two neem processing plants, one each in West Bengal and Maharashtra, for promoting neem based pesticides in agriculture. During 2002, nearly 50 tons of raw neem fruits were collected and processed for field demonstrations on various crops.