

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2000  
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2002  
BIO FERTILIZER  
MOHAN RAWALE

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

- (a) whether the Government have fixed any norms or standards with regard to the content in Bio- fertilizer;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the progress of use of bio-fertilizers and its publicity to farmers being undertaken;
- (d) the status of micronutrient fertilizers in the soil;
- (e) the steps taken to prevent micronutrient depletion in the soil; and
- (f) the steps taken to ensure quality products to the farmers?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has notified specifications of 4 important biofertilizers, namely:-

Rhizobium - IS 8268:2000  
Azotobacter - IS 9138:2000  
Phosphate Solubilising Bacterial Inoculant - IS 14807:2000  
Azospirillum - IS 14806:2000

(c): The Government has implemented a National Project on Development and Use of Biofertilizers under which funds have been provided for setting up of biofertilizer production units. Also extension and promotion of biofertilizers and organizing of field demonstrations on farmers fields are being undertaken by National Biofertilizer Development Centre and its Regional Centres.

(d)&(e): Government is promoting the soil test based judicious application of chemical fertilizers including micro-nutrient fertilizers, organic manures and biofertilizers for maintaining soil fertility. It ensures adequate availability of plant nutrients including micronutrients in the soil for use by crops.

(f): The quality of fertilizers are being ensured through Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 issued under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the quality of biofertilizers is being regularly monitored by State Governments through Central and State Biofertilizer Testing Laboratories and the State Governments take necessary action against the offenders.