

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1831  
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2003  
ECO FRIENDLY FARMING  
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

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

- (a) whether chemical fertilizers has led to degradation of soil and water;
- (b) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government;
- (c) whether the Government propose to promote organic farming to check this menace; and
- (d) if so, the efforts being made by the Government for popularising organic farming?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The average consumption of chemical fertilizers in the country is only 84.82 Kg/ha. (during 2002-03). This level of consumption is not considered to cause ill effect on soil and water. However, to ensure that there is no ill effect of any kind due to imbalanced use of chemical fertilizers, the Government propagates Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) which includes soil test based judicious use of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with organic sources of nutrients.

(c) & (d): The Government also promotes organic farming by advocating enhanced use of organic source of nutrients like farm yard manure, compost, green manure, vermi-compost and bio-fertilizers.

The Government has formulated a `National Project on Organic Farming` with an outlay of Rs.99.58 crores during Xth Plan. Under the project a `National Institute of Organic Farming (NIOF)` is to be set up for promotion of organic farming in the country.