

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:739

ANSWERED ON:12.07.2004

SETTING UP OF REGIONAL CENTRES FOR ORGANIC FARMING

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether regional centers have been set up under the National Scheme for the Development of Organic Farming in Ghaziabad and Nagpur;
- (b) if so, the present status of both of the above centers;
- (c) the amount of grants provided to each of the centers since their inception and the quantity of organic fertilizer produced;
- (d) the reasons for non-implementation of the scheme effectively; and
- (e) the action being taken or proposed to be taken to ensure proper functioning of these centers?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Under the National Project on Development and Use of Biofertilizers, a National Biofertilizer Development Centre (NBDC) has been set up at Ghaziabad and also six Regional Biofertilizer Development Centres (RBDCs) including one at Nagpur. All the 7 centres are working effectively for promotion & quality control of bio-fertilizers. The production of bio-fertilizers, which was earlier one of the functions, has since been discontinued w.e.f. August 2000 due to reasonable capacity having been set up in public and private sector. However, this plan scheme is being subsumed under National Project on Organic Farming for production, promotion and market development of organic produce in the country during the remaining period of 10th Plan.

(c): This being a Central Sector Plan scheme, the total expenditure during different plan periods is as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Plan	Amount
VI Plan	0.16
VII Plan	3.95
VIII Plan	11.38
IX Plan	21.24
X Plan (upto 2003-04)	4.34

The NBDC, Ghaziabad has produced 574.61 tonnes and RBDC, Nagpur 389.78 tonnes of different bio-fertilizers since inception.

(d)&(e): NBDC, Ghaziabad and all its regional centers including RBDC, Nagpur are working effectively.