

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2967
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2010
INTEGRATED NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGIES
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to evolve and identify suitable bio-fertiliser strains for major pulse based cropping systems for different agro-climatic conditions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefore;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to increase the adaptability of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) technologies by farmers at the farm level; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The ICAR has identified and evolved suitable biofertilizer strains (Rhizobium spp) for major pulse growing regions of the country (Annexed).

Recently, the ICAR launched a sub-programme on "Genetic Diversity of Rhizobia of Indian soils" under the All India Network Project on Soil Biodiversity-biofertilizers to isolate most efficient rhizobial strains for 19 legumes (of which 11 are pulses) from 14 states with 70 representative districts.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) & (e): Yes, Madam. The ICAR has developed location specific integrated nutrient management (INM) packages for different crops/cropping systems envisaging conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources of plant nutrients (compost, FYM, biofertilizers etc) to sustain good soil health and higher crop productivity. The ICAR also imparts training, organizes FLDs etc. to educate farmers on these aspects.

Besides, the Government is also promoting INM under National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility throughout the country.