

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4430
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009
ORGANIC FERTILISERS
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps for examination and certification of organic fertilisers in view of its increasing use;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of companies manufacturing organic fertilisers in the country as on date;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to bring the said manufacturing and marketing companies under the quality control mechanism;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether there are reports of soil having been sold in the name of organic fertilizers to the farmers of Maharashtra and several other States in the country; and
- (g) if so, the action taken by the Government against Companies/persons found responsible?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Organic fertilizers intended for use in certified organic farming are required to be approved under National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP) through accredited certification agencies.

(c): As organic fertilizer production is a low cost, raw material intensive activity, a large number of small scale production units exist in the country. 27 fruit and vegetable waste compost units and 1,201 vermiculture hatcheries have been sanctioned by the Government under National Project on Organic Farming.

(d) & (e): To ensure the quality of organic fertilizers Government has defined standards for selected organic fertilizers under Fertilizer (Control) Order (FCO) 1985. National Centre of Organic Farming and its six regional centres have been notified as authorized testing laboratories. State Governments can also notify their quality control laboratories under FCO.

(f) & (g): State Government of Maharashtra has reported that one complaint was received from Kolhapur in Maharashtra about mixing soil with pressmud and sea sand. FIR has been registered against the accused person.