

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1112

ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012

USE OF BIO FERTILISERS

Bhagat Shri Sudarshan;Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Pandey Saroj

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a shortage of manure/bio-fertilisers in the country including Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details of the demand, supply and use of bio-fertilisers in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether any periodic assessment is being made to ascertain the benefits of the use of bio-fertilisers on the soil fertility;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to encourage the use of bio- fertilisers in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

- (a) & (b): Shortage of maure/bio-fertilisers has not been reported from any part of the country including Jharkhand.
- (c) & (d): Indian Council of Agricultural Research is periodically investigating improved and efficient strains of bio-fertilisers specific to different crops and soil types under Network Project on Soil Biodiversity-Biofertilisers operating in 14 different states. These investigations have revealed benefits of bio-fertilisers in terms of sustaining soil health and higher productivity.
- (e): Promotion of bio-fertilisers is being encouraged through a central sector scheme National Project on Promotion of Organic farming (NPOF) for setting up of new or strengthening of existing bio-fertiliser production units, technology transfer and training etc. Further, to promote use of bio-fertilisers, Rizobium, Azotobacter, Azospirillum, Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria and Mycorrhizal bio-fertilisers have been incorporated in Fertiliser (control) Order, 1985.