

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3912  
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2012  
CHEMICAL FREE FERTILISERS  
Bajwa Shri Partap Singh

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to develop and distribute chemical free fertilisers throughout the country due to the potential harm caused by chemical fertilisers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the projected expenditure for R&D purposes to develop chemical free fertilisers;
- (d) whether the Government has considered implementing different models of fertiliser usage throughout the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) to (e): Madam, there is no scientific evidence of declining soil or crop productivity from judicious use of chemical fertilizers, Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed technology for preparation of enriched/vermi-compost from various organic wastes. Beside this, improved and efficient strains of bio-fertilizers specific to different crops and soil types are being developed by ICAR under Network Project on Bio-fertilizers. The expenditure incurred by ICAR under this project during past two years (2010-11 & 2011-12) is Rs. 445 lakhs. Mulching of soil is also a good process to conserve moisture and prevention of soil nutrients to run off. Government is also promoting soil test-based, balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers, bio- fertilizers, and locally available organic manures such as farmyard manure, vermi- compost, and green manure to maintain soil health and productivity. Under National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) Scheme, financial assistance is being provided as credit linked back ended subsidy through NABARD for setting up of Fruit & Vegetable, Market waste/Agriculture waste compost unit @ 33% of total financial outlay or Rs.60.00 lakh whichever is less for 100 ton per day capacity and financial assistance up to 25% of total financial outlay or Rs. 40 lakh whichever is less for establishment of state of the art sterile liquid / carrier based 200 TPA bio-fertilizers and microbial bio-pesticides production units as credit linked back ended subsidy through NABARD. Under National Horticulture Mission (NHM), financial assistance is provided for setting up of vermi- compost units @ 50% of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 30,000/- per beneficiary and under National Project on Management of Soil Health & Fertility (NPMSF), financial assistance is provided @ Rs. 500/- per hectare maximum for use of organic manure.