GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2843 ANSWERED ON:27.08.2013 ORGANIC MANURE

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to revise the Fertilizer Control Order of 1985 to include organic manure;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to provide financial assistance to the farmers for marketing of city compost manufactured as per the Fertilizer Control Order with a view to deal with the challenges of global warming and providing compost to the farmers at fair rates in order to enhance organic carbon in the soil to increase the productivity of the soil;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to promote the use of organic manure and bio-fertilizers by the farmers and support sustainable agricultural practices?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Government has already notified the general specification of Organic Manure in Schedule IV of the Fertiliser Control Order vide notification dated 16.08.2013. The source of oganic manure is any of the plant biomass/animal biomass/animal excréta.
- (c) to (e): There is no such provision to provide financial assistance to farmers directly for marketing of city compost manufactured as per the Fertilizer Control Order.

However, under National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF), financial assistance is being provided as credit linked back ended subsidy through NABARD for setting up of fruit/vegetable waste/agro-waste compost unit @ 33% of the total financial outlay of project or Rs. 60.00 lakh per unit whichever is less; National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) provide financial assistance for adoption of organic farming @ Rs.10,000/- per hectare for maximum area of 4 hectare per beneficiary, for setting up of vermi-compost units @ 50% of the cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 30,000/- per beneficiary, and for organic farming certification @ Rs.5.00 lakh for a group of farmers covering an area of 50 hectares; National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility (NPMSHF), financial assistance is provided @ Rs. 500 per ha for promoting use of organic manures; Assistance for promotion of organic farming on different components are also available under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) for projects formulated and approved by the State Level Sanctioning Committee.

To improve the quality standrads of biofertilisers and organic fertilizers, Government has notified the seven Biofertilizers (e.g. Rhizobium, Azotobacter, Azospirillum, Phosphate Solublising Microorganism, Mycorrhiza, Potassium Mobilizing Biofertilizers, Zinc Solubilising Bacteria) and organic fertilizers [like vermicompost, City waste compost, De-oiled castor cake and PROM (Phosphate Rich Organic Manures)] in Fertilizer Control Order-1985.