

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3799

ANSWERED ON:16.12.2014

PROMOTION OF ORGANIC MANURE

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

- (a) the details of the organic fertilizers which are used in agriculture in the country;
- (b) whether the Government plans to involve the private sector in development of the use of organic manure;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has launched certain schemes in the country to promote the production and use of biofertilizers/organic fertilizers in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated under various schemes for the purpose during the Eleventh and Twelfth Five Year Plan Period, State/ UT-wise including Rajasthan;
- (e) the number of farmers benefited under the various schemes, State-wise;
- (f) the details of production of major crops achieved during the last one year using bio-fertilizers/organic fertilizers vis-à-vis chemical fertilizers in the country State/UT-wise;
- (g) whether it is a fact that many organic fertilizers are sold at exorbitant prices in the market, if so, the steps taken by the Government to control the prices of organic fertilizers; and
- (h) the other various steps taken by the Government to popularise the use of biofertilizers /organic fertilizers amongst the farmers in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

(a): Several organic fertilizers like, vermi-compost, compost, city compost, phosphoric organic manure (PROM) including non-edible castor de-oiled cake and bio-fertilizers like Rhizobium, Azotobacter, Azospirillum, Phosphate solubilizing bacteria, VA mycorrhizae, Acetobacter are being used in agriculture as organic fertilizers in the country.

(b) to (d): Under National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Government is promoting production and use of organic fertilizers/ bio-fertilizers in the country by providing 33% of total project cost maximum limited upto Rs.63 lakh per unit for individuals/ private agencies for establishment of agro / vegetable waste compost production units of 3000 TPA production capacity and 25% of total project cost limited upto Rs.40 lakh per unit for individuals/ private agencies through NABARD for bio-fertilizers production unit of 200 TPA production capacity is provided as back-ended subsidy through National Bank for Agricultural & Rural Development (NABARD). Financial assistance upto 50% of cost subject to a limit of Rs.5,000/- per hectare and Rs.10,000/- per beneficiary is provided for promotion of organic inputs. The State-wise Number of Units established and funds released from October, 2004 to till March, 2014 is given at Annexure-I.

Under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Government is also providing financial assistance for establishing vermi-compost units and HDPE Vermi- beds @50% of cost conforming to the size of the unit of 30'X8'X2.5' dimension of permanent structure to be administered on pro-rata basis. For HDPE Vermibed, 50% of cost conforming to the size of 96 cft (12'X4'X2') and IS 15907:2010 to be administered on pro-rata basis (Rs. 100,000/ unit for permanent structure and Rs. 16,000/unit for HDPE Vermibed). Under INM component of MIDH, subsidy can be availed for use of liquid bio-fertilizers of N, P and K such as Rhizobium/ Azospirillum/ Azotobacter, Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria (PSB) and Potash Mobilizing Bacteria (KMB) to be applied in combination, in demonstration and other programme, for which total assistance is limited to 50% of cost, or Rs.300.00 per ha., for a maximum area of four ha. per beneficiary.

(e) & (f): The number of farmers benefited under the various extension activities are as under:

Year No. of farmers

2013-14 3785036

(2773264 Male +1011772 Female)

2014-15 1109910

(855810 Male + 254100 Female)

The major crops produced under organic production in India are Sugarcane, Basmati Rice, Soya bean, Cotton, Tea, Coffee in the year 2013-14.

(g): No specific information is available on exorbitant price organic fertilizer in the market.

(h): Under NMSA, the National Centre of Organic Farming, Ghaziabad, is conducting various extension and publicity activities like Exhibitions, Radio Talks, TV Programmes, distribution of literature on Bio-fertilizers etc to educate farmers. NCOF is also publishing Bio-Fertilizer News Letter as well as Organic Farming News Letter Bi-annually and Quarterly respectively both in Hindi and English language. And in addition, various books on production and use of bio-fertilizers have been published in various languages for distribution to the farming community. Radio jingle (Hindi) on promotion of organic agriculture broadcasted on 4 different FM Radio Stations at Delhi, Bangalore, Nagpur and Lucknow. The details of publicity activities undertaken by NCOF during 2013-14 is given at Annexure-II.