

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION & FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 23
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH NOVEMBER, 2019

PROMOTION OF BIO-FERTILIZERS

*23. SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH:
SHRIMATI SHARDABEN ANILBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent study has revealed that most of the serious ailments are occurring due to excessive use of chemical fertilizers and insecticides, if so, whether the Government has formulated any concrete programme for conducting a study in this regard;

(b) whether the Government proposes to promote the use of bio-fertilizers in view of the adverse effect of chemical fertilizers and pesticides on human health and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to promote production/research work on such bio-fertilizers so as to ensure that there is no shortage of bio-fertilizers and their production remains unaffected and cost effective and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has conducted any study on the effect of bio-fertilizers on the agricultural output and if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the details of the schemes of the Government to promote organic/ bio-fertilizers of better quality in place of chemical fertilizers so as to avoid adverse impact on agricultural production; and

(f) whether the Government proposes to set up outlets for organic/bio-fertilizers on the lines of outlets set up for chemical fertilizers and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 23 DUE FOR REPLY ON 19TH NOVEMBER, 2019.

(a): Government has been making concerted efforts through various programmes to encourage farmers for judicious use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has recently initiated a multi-centric study "*exposure and the health effects of pesticides*" to assess the health status of population in areas with high and low pesticides usage.

(b) to (e): Government of India has been promoting production and use of bio fertilizers under various schemes/ programmes including Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme (CISS) , Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER , National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), National Food Security Mission (NFSM) . The details are at **Annexure 1**

The effort of the Government through different interventions has resulted in increase in carrier based biofertilizer production from 88029 MT in 2015-16 to 121066 MT in 2017-18. Similarly, the liquid based biofertilizer production has increased from 6241(KL) in 2015-16 to 9033 KL in 2017-18.

ICAR under "**Network project on soil biodiversity- bio fertilizers**" has developed improved and efficient strains of biofertilizers specific to different crops and soil types. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) study indicates that biofertilizers can improve crop yields by 10-25% and supplement costly chemical fertilizer (N, P) by nearly 20-25% in most of the crops when used along with the chemical fertilizers.

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(f): Government of India has made provisions for selling of bio-fertilizers/organic fertilizers through online *jaivikkheti.in* portal. As per Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 (FCO), States can permit the sale of organic/bio-fertilizers along with chemical fertilizers at dealer's outlets of private and co-operative societies. Organic outlets have been created by States like U.P under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

Steps taken by government for promotion of organic / biofertilisers

- **Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme (CISS):** Government of India promotes the production of bio-fertilizers under Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme (CISS) by providing 100% assistance to State Govt./ Govt. Agencies upto a maximum limit of Rs.160.00 lakh/ unit for Setting up of State of art liquid/ carrier based Bio-fertilizer units of 200 Ton Per Annum (TPA) capacity. Similarly, for individuals/ private agencies assistance upto 25% of cost limited to Rs.40 lakh/unit as capital investment is provided.
- **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY):** Assistance of Rs 50,000 per hectare/ 3 years is given, out of which Rs. 31,000 (62%) is provided to the farmers directly through DBT, for inputs (bio-fertilizers, biopesticides, vermicompost, botanical extracts etc) production/ procurement, post harvest management etc
- **Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER):** Farmers are given assistance of Rs25000/ ha/ 3 years for both on-farm & off-farm organic inputs, and seeds/ planting material.
- **National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP):** Financial assistance@ 50% subsidy to the tune of Rs. 300/- per ha is being provided for different components including bio-fertilizers, supply of Rhizobium culture/Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria (PSB)/ Zinc Solubilising Bacteria(ZSB)/ Azatobacter/ Mycorrhiza and vermi compost
- **National Food Security Mission (NFSM):** Under NFSM, financial assistance is provided for promotion of Bio-Fertilizer (Rhizobium/ PSB) @50% of the cost limited to Rs.300 per ha
- **INM &IPM:** Gol has also been promoting soil test based Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) under Soil Health Card Programme and Integrated Pest management (IPM) practices such as including cultural, mechanical, biological control of pests along with judicious use of pesticides to control excess use of fertilisers and pesticides respectively.

ICAR Research programmes:

- **One acre Integrated Organic Farming System (IOFS) models:** IOFS models suitable for marginal farmers have been established in Kerala, Meghalaya and Tamil Nadu which provides scope to generate more than 80 % of inputs required for organic farming within the farm, thus reducing the cost of production.
- **All India Network Programme on Organic Farming (AI-NPOF):** Under this programme, management package involving reduced application of nutrients through manures with innovative practices are being evaluated at different locations which also includes use of bio fertilizers.