

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1606 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 10.02.2023

New fertilizer under NBS Scheme

1606. SHRIMATI POONAMBEN MAADAM:

Will the Minister of **CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is taking steps to incorporate new fertilizers under the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) scheme or Fertilizer Control Order, 1985;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage efficient use of chemical fertilizers;
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce the use of chemical fertilizer as it causes pollution;
- (e) whether the Government encourages use of fertilizers from organic sources; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
(**SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA**)

(a) & (b): No Sir, at present there is no step under consideration for inclusion of new fertilizer grade under the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) scheme.

(c) & (d): Sir, Government is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources (manure, bio-fertilizers etc.) of plant nutrients to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers preventing deterioration of soil health, environment and contamination of groundwater. In addition, split application and placement of fertilizers, use of slow releasing N-fertilizers and nitrification inhibitors, growing leguminous crops and use of Resource Conservation Technologies (RCTs) are also advocated. Indian Council of Agricultural Research imparts training, organizes front-line demonstrations and undertakes public campaigns to educate farmers on all these aspects

(e) & (f): In order to promote use of organic sources of fertilizers Government has developed several technologies and carried out technology dissemination activities. Several organic waste recycling and enrichment technologies have been developed. In order to enhance bio-fertilizer use ICAR has developed improved and efficient strains of bio-fertilizers specific to different crops and soil types. Liquid Bio-fertilizer technology with higher shelf-life has also been developed. These are available for use by farmers and other stakeholders. The ICAR also imparts training to educate farmers and provide technical backstopping to governmental schemes in this regard.

Further Government had also formulated a policy on promotion of city compost on 10.02.2016 wherein Market Development Assistance (MDA) @ Rs. 1500/- per MT in the form of assistance was provided for scaling up production and consumption of city compost. The MDA scheme has been discontinued beyond 30th September, 2021 on the recommendation of Expenditure Finance Committee in the Ministry of Finance. Also, for promotion of organic and bio-fertilizers, Government has requested all fertilizer marketing companies to arrange for mandatory off-take of Fermented Organic Manure (FOM) and other organic & bio-fertilizer with chemical fertilizer as a “Basket Approach” to ensure balanced and Integrated Nutrient Management for the Crops.
