

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2539
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH DECEMBER, 2023

QUALITY CONTROL LABORATORY

2539. SHRIMATI GODDETI MADHAVI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has set up a state-of-the-art Biofertilizer and Organic Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratory, said to be the first of its kind in the State, to enable farmers to increasingly use micro-organisms to increase farm production;
- (b) if so, whether the Government plans to set up similar facilities for promoting the use of organic fertilizers to increase farm production and reduce the practice of indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers and pesticide;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to provide additional financial assistance to States under PM PRANAM apart from the 50 per cent to help States develop and adopt alternative fertilizers and practices; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA)

- (a) : In the State of Andhra Pradesh for quality check of Bio and organic fertilizers Quality Control lab is established at Nellore under centrally sponsored scheme - National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture, Soil Health Management component during 2014-15.
- (b): Under Soil Health & Fertility Scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), financial assistance @ of Rs. 85 lakh is provided to the State Governments for setting up of Biofertilizers and Organic Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratory.

Government of India is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources (manure,

biofertilizers, green manuring, in-situ crop residue recycling etc.) of plant nutrients with 4Rs approach i.e right quantity, right time, right mode and right type of fertilizer for judicious use of chemical fertilizers and to reduce use of chemical fertilizers. In addition, split application, use of slow releasing fertilizers including neem coated urea and growing leguminous crops are also advocated. The Government of India is promoting the Biofertiliser, Organic Fertiliser as alternate source of nutrients.

The Government of India is implementing various schemes in order to promote the use of organic fertilizers by the farmers, the details of the schemes are as under:

(i) Market Development Assistance (MDA) to Compressed Bio Gas Plants for sale of Fermented Organic Manure (FOM)/Liquid Fermented Organic Manure (LFOM) & Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM): Based on the budget announcement and the recommendations of the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC), the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 28th June, 2023 approved the Market Development Assistance (MDA) to promote Organic Fertilizers. Support under MDA @ ₹ 1,500/MT which will be given only for the manure produced at plants under umbrella GOBARdhan initiative covering different Biogas/CBG support schemes/programmes of stakeholder Ministries/Departments such as Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) scheme of MoPNG, 'Waste to Energy' programme of MNRE, Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) of DDWS, etc. with total outlay of ₹ 1,451.84 Crore (FY 2023-24 to 2025-26), which includes a corpus of ₹360 Crore for research gap funding, etc.”

(ii) PM-PRANAM Scheme: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 28th June, 2023 has approved the “PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness Generation, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother-Earth (PM-PRANAM)”. The initiative aims to complement the efforts initiated by States/UTs to save the health of Mother Earth by promoting sustainable and balanced use of fertilizers, adopting alternate fertilizers, promoting organic farming and implementing resource conservation technologies. The PM-PRANAM scheme is operational for a period of three years (FY 2023-24 to FY 2025-26).

Under the said scheme, 50% of the fertilizer subsidy saved by a State/UT in a particular financial year by way of reduction in consumption of chemical fertilizers (Urea, DAP, NPK, MOP) compared to previous 3 years' average consumption, will be passed on to that State/UT as Grant.

These initiatives of the Government are expected to address the imbalanced use of chemical fertilizers thereby reducing chemical fertilizer use.

(iii) Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain development in North East Region (MOVCDNER): Government of India is implementing dedicated schemes for promotion of organic farming in the country viz. Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North East Region (MOVCDNER) since 2015-16. Under these schemes, farmers are

encouraged to take up organic cultivation using organic inputs and the schemes provide end-to-end support to farmers i.e. from production to marketing of organic produce. Hands on training to farmers about on-farm production of organic fertilizers and its use are integral part of these schemes. Farmers are provided a subsidy of Rs 31000/ha/3years under PKVY and Rs. 32500/ha/3 years under MOVCDNER for various organic inputs. An amount of Rs 684.84 Crores has been earmarked for promotion of organic farming for the year 2023-24.

- (iv) ICAR has developed improved and efficient strains of biofertilizers specific to different crops and soil types to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers in agricultural production. 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. ICAR also imparts trainings to different stakeholders, organizes front-line demonstrations, awareness programs etc. to educate farmers on all these aspects.

Further, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare through its Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), ICAR and 36 Central Integrated Pest Management Centers (CIPMCs) located in 28 States and 2 UTs, etc conduct various training programmes such as Farmers Field Schools, two/five days HRD programmes, Kisan Goshthis, IPM Exhibitions and Seed Treatment Campaigns, where awareness is created amongst farmers, Pesticide dealers/State agriculture functionaries on use of bio pesticides, bio control agents and botanical formulations as an alternative to chemical pesticides for pest management, safe and judicious use of chemical pesticides in accordance to the dose and label claim instructions as approved by Registration Committee (RC), as last resort.

Moreover, CIPMC's bio-control laboratories produce various bio-pesticides and bio-control agents such as *Metarhizium*, *Beauveria*, *Pseudomonas*, *Bacillus*, *Trichoderma* spp, *Isaria fumosorosea*; *Trichogramma* spp., *Chilonus blackburni*, Reduviid bug, *Rhynocoris marginatus*, *Chrysoperla zastrowisillemi*, *Cryptolaemus montrouzeri*, *Goniozus nephantidis*, *Sycanus collaris*, *Psuedomallada astur* and release them in field for management of various pests and pathogens.

Further, Government of India has taken various steps to promote the use of bio pesticides. Simplified guidelines have been formulated by RC for the registration of bio pesticides. For bio-pesticides, provisional registrations are being granted under Section 9(3B) of the Insecticides Act, 1968 alongwith the permission for commercialization during the provisional registration period of two years based on the confirmation of molecular identity of the strain from ICAR-National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganisms (ICAR-NBAIM) and quality verification of the product from Central Insecticide Laboratory (CIL).

There are 06 State Bio-Pesticide Testing Laboratories (SBTLs) spread across the country for analysis of Bio-pesticides. Further, Government of India has notified 08 Regional Bio- Pesticide Testing Laboratories to supplement the resources of the States/UTs in quality control of Bio-pesticides. Similarly, the Central Government has also

set up a Central Insecticide Laboratory as a National Referral Laboratory u/s. 16 of the Insecticide Act, 1968. The details of Bio-pesticide Testing Laboratories in India are enclosed as **Annexure- I**.

(c) & (d): Under the PM PRANAM Scheme, 50% of the fertilizer subsidy saved by a State/UT in a particular financial year by way of reduction in consumption of chemical fertilizers (Urea, DAP, NPK, MOP) compared to previous 3 years' average consumption, will be passed on to that State/UT as Grant. Apart from this, no additional financial assistance to states is proposed under PM PRANAM.

Annexure - I

Number of Bio Pesticide testing Laboratories in India

(A) STATE BIO-PESTICIDE TESTING LABORATORIES

No.	State/UTs	Number of Laboratories	Location
1.	Maharashtra	04	Pune,
			Amravati
			Thane
			Aurangabad
2.	Rajasthan	01	Durgapura
3.	Telangana	01	Malakpeta (Hyderabad)
	TOTAL	06	

(B) REGIONAL BIO-PESTICIDE TESTING LABORATORIES

S. No.	State/UTs
1.	Regional Pesticide Testing laboratory (RPTL), Chandigarh
2.	Regional Pesticide Testing laboratory (RPTL), Kanpur
3.	Regional Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Faridabad
4.	Regional Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Guwahati
5.	Regional Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Lucknow
6.	Regional Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Bengaluru
7.	Regional Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Kolkata
8.	Regional Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Nagpur
Total: 08	

(C) CENTRAL BIO-PESTICIDE TESTING LABORATORIES

S. No.	Name of Laboratories
1.	Indian Agriculture Research Institute (Division of Entomology), Pusa, New Delhi
2.	G.B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology (Center of Advance Studies in Plant Pathology), Pant Nagar, Uttarakhand
3.	Regional Research Laboratory (Department of Biotechnology), Jammu
4.	Assam Agriculture University, (Department of Entomology), Jorhat, Assam
5.	Mahatma PhoolkeKrishiVidyapeeth (College of Agriculture), Pune, Maharashtra
6.	University of Agriculture Science (Department of Agriculture Entomology), Dharwad, Karnataka
7.	Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
8.	Central Insecticide Laboratory, Faridabad
9.	National Institute of Plant Health Management, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad
