

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 468
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH FEBRUARY, 2024

PROMOTING THE USE OF BIO-FERTILIZERS

468. SHRI PARBATBHAI SAVABHAI PATEL:
SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT:

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

- (a) whether the Government is promoting the use of bio-fertilizers in the country keeping in view of the adverse effects of chemical fertilizers on human health;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the initiatives/schemes run by the Government aimed at promoting bio-fertilizers;
- (c) the statistical data of the use of bio-fertilizers in the country since 2014 to till date, State-wise and year-wise;
- (d) the total funds allocated for the supply of bio-fertilizers in the country during the last five years, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to promote Research and Development in the field of biofertilizers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA)

(a) to (e): Government of India encourages the use of bio-fertilizers which are cheap and eco-friendly source of nutrient and considered as an important component of organic farming and Integrated Nutrient Management.

In order to ensure the availability of good quality organic-fertilizers, the Government of India regulates its quality under the Fertilizer Control Order (1985). Standards have been specified which are required to be adhered mandatorily by the manufacturers. Government of India has notified 32 quality testing laboratories and initiated steps to accredit its laboratories under NABL to strengthen quality control activities.

The Government of India is not granting any assistance for distribution of bio-fertilizer. However, under the Soil Health & Fertility component of RKVY, bio-fertilizers are promoted through provisions of financial assistance for strengthening of infrastructure for production and quality control. The scheme is proposal driven and assistance is granted on the basis of

proposals submitted by states for setting up Bio-fertilizers Unit and Bio/Organic fertilizer Quality Control lab.

The State-wise consolidated financial assistance given since 2014-15 for establishment of Bio-fertilizers Unit and Bio/Organic fertilizer Quality Control lab in the country under Soil Health & Fertility of RKVY is given at **Annexure-I**.

Government of India is also promoting the use of bio-fertilizers under Paramparagat 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. Use of bio-fertilizers is also an integral part of Integrated Nutrient Management approaches and package of practices for all crops recommend use of bio-fertilizers.

Government of India has approved the “PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother Earth (PM-PRANAM)”, which 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. Under the 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.

Under Mission Life programme, Government is taking up various environment initiatives to encourage natural and organic farming using organic and bio-fertilizer to reduce carbon foot print, reduced emission of Green House Gas (GHG) through reduction of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed efficient strains of bio-fertilizers specific to different crops and soil types to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers in agricultural production. When these bio-fertilizers are applied along with compost @ 5tonne/ha or vermi-compost @ 4tonne/ha, fertilizer saving is estimated to be upto 50%. Therefore, ICAR recommends integrated use of fertilizers and manures. Bio-fertilizers, both liquid and powdered form have been developed and promoted under All India Network Project on Soil Biodiversity. Bio-fertilizers for Phosphorus solubilization, Nitrogen fixation, Potassium and Zinc solubilization suitable for different crops across the country are developed and many of them are commercialized. The ICAR also imparts training on use of bio-fertilizers, organizes front-line demonstrations, awareness programs etc. to educate farmers on all these aspects.

National Center of Organic and Natural Farming (NCONF) and its Regional Center of Organic and Natural Farming located at Ghaziabad, Nagpur, Bangalore, Imphal and Bhubaneswar are organizing various HRD trainings namely One Day Farmers’ Training, Two Days Training for Extension Officers/Staff, Two Days Training on PGS, 30 Days Certificate course, One day Jaivik evam Prakratik Kisan Sammelan, One Day Stakeholder consultations/conferences on Natural Farming, Orientation Program on Natural Farming and awareness programmes across the country to disseminate information on organic and natural farming as well as on- farm production and use of various kinds of organic and bio-fertilizers. NCONF and RCONF also organize online awareness campaign and training programmes on organic and natural farming and production and use of organic and bio-fertilizers. State wise production of Bio Fertilizers is enclosed at **Annexure II**.

To encourage farmers to use the bio-fertilizers, Government has taken various initiatives such as:

- i. The integrated use of bio-fertilizer, organic fertilizer and organic manure has been made integral part of package of practices developed by ICAR and State Agriculture Universities.
- ii. ICAR has developed liquid bio-fertilizer technology with higher shelf –life and also developed improved strains of bio-fertilizers specific to different crops and soil types.

Annexure – I

State-wise consolidated financial assistance given since 2014-15 for establishment of Bio-fertilizers Unit and Bio/Organic fertilizer Quality Control lab in the country under Soil Health & Fertility of RKVY

(Amount in lakh rupees)

S. No	State	Financial Assistance provided for Bio-fertilizer Production Units	Financial Assistance provided for Bio/ Organic-fertilizer Quality Control Lab
1	Arunachal Pradesh	36.00	19.13
2	Assam	23.43	89.25
3	Chhattisgarh	48.00	76.50
4	Haryana	92.16	-
5	Meghalaya	108.00	-
6	Nagaland	504.00	95.63
7	Sikkim	144.00	76.50
8	Tamil Nadu	144.00	76.50
9	Telangana	144.00	76.50
10	Tripura	108.00	-
11	Uttar Pradesh	160.00	-
12	Andhra Pradesh	-	76.50
13	Gujarat	-	38.25
14	J & K	-	76.50
15	Jharkhand	-	38.25
16	Puducherry	-	50.00
17	Punjab	-	11.25
18	West Bengal	-	63.75
	Total	1511.59	864.51

STATE-WISE BIOFERTILIZER PRODUCTION (CARRIER + LIQUID BASE) IN INDIA DURING 2014-15 TO 2022-23

STATE	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21		2021-22		2022-23	
	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)
Andhra Pradesh	2668.8	274.856	3062.6	317.811	3375.91	365.24	4983.6	369.75	263.88	0	228.27	0	123.19	98.49	353.8745	62.609	104.99	40.67
Arunachal P	59	0	118	0	119.7	0	232.9	0.11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assam	88	0	1315	22.5	1359.05	26	1742.62	33.1	0	0	640.33	4.9	438.54	3447.35	524.85	22582	427.16	3477.3
Andaman & N	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bihar	64.9	0	97	0	107	0	128.76	0.02	130.827	0	375	1900	74.59	2.11	6545.656	0	1144.436	867.104
Chandigarh	1024.68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chhattisgarh	0	9.62	954.371	9.38	955.07	10.23	969.07	16.63	172.029	133.74	26.77	189.64	558.88	268.68	9.78	103.45	404.52	181.54
Dadar Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delhi	104.5	0	106.2	0	116.2	0	119.72	0	0	0	345	0	0	0	173	0	0	0
Goa	802.52	0	820.52	0	822	0	838.74	0	2044.01	0	50	0	30	0	124.26	0	296.798	0
Gujarat	3667.929	2800.5	3963.42	2873.317	3909.82	2857.77	4248.15	3519.29	10596.37	430.529	20788	9444	19483.31	8055.72	24772.142	8030.32	67227.3	432988.72
Haryana	872.955	46.489	1097.457	58.032	2360.64	70.148	2504.61	76	2128.7	246.54	2794.77	0	3105.42	113.17	99809.611	108982	61727.903	1746.37
Himachal P.	0.768	33.07	2.712	190.05	3.28	194.7	8.48	209.7	135.1124	12.05	320	137.9	0	0.22	120.4451	137	47.074	34.3
Jharkhand	9.08	0	9.172	0	18.552	0	20.96	0.01	0	0	5.15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
J & K	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.04	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.55	3.3	0.275	2.885
Karnataka	16462.62	23.05605	23042.91	488.142	31553.06	993.443	34493	1352.85	3253.7	758.19	3606.72	1218	1446.5	870.53	1510.6073	1368.37	1456.86	1691.53
Kerala	4916.97	10.5096	4926.045	56.5751	4993.87	59.6143	6040.1	82.85	83.504	2.098	91.03	5512.14	164.98	2612	127.187	660.6	57.183	0.07355
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madhya P.	2637.9895	119.216	2741.30775	131.033	5609.01	238.103	6561.51	290.4	7426.517	327.193	1330.01	315.64	21834.3	15811.1	6584.79	84200	6635.7	87660.1
Maharashtra	14847.397	324.767	7825.142	389.665	8323.62	398.33	10024.9	427.4	15049.75	4193.785	15897	237.14	5328.18	2140.95	7452.94	4680.88	7820.12	5110.38
Manipur	0	0	0	0	25	0	23.94	0	81.5	100	13.2	11.51	20	24.01	22.1	24.74	0	0
Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mizoram	3.6	0	4.2	0	2.5	0	8.99	0	0	0	1.4	0	1.4	0	0.9	0	0	0
Nagaland	7.45	0	8.81	0	51.45	0	70.62	0	0	0	18.75	0	19.14	0	6.04	0	0	0

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	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)	Carrier (MT)	Liquid (KL)
Orissa	1074.46	4.7	467.634	13.701	516.28	31.79	560.2	46.18	8166.89	149.69 2	449.2	1719	19406. 64	859.6	13367.97	200.818	319.53	77.677
Puduchery	560.95	1.4975 7	283.641	4.088	203.97	11.197	297.58	28.37	68.24	6.192	121.9	7.57	97.17	2.16	90.147	5.66	90.041	8.338
Punjab	6305.45 325	74.278	2197.197	149.58 1	5533.77	210.17 7	5645.2 8	236.0 9	7167.38 4	220.78 5	9252.1 9	192.49	16042. 27	361.3 7	3063.7	85.696	416.9	2367.8
Rajasthan	599.898	0	680	0	711	0	791.81	1.12	0	0	2142.7 8	0	10612	0	0	0	11000	13500
Sikkim	12.4	0	12.91	0	16.25	0	33.15	0	0	0	0	0	69.02	0	11.314	0	0	0
Tamilnadu	15373.2 9	11.301 74	23721.21 04	861.95 35	27427.9 62	875.29 2	28059. 4	46.18	4187.24 3	536.78 4	11611	1481.5 9	88652. 43	434.3 13	0	1108.89	134420	1209.44 6
Telangana	0	0	0	0	0	0	574.15	236.0 9	2556.29 1	12711. 74	1536.3 3	174.75	448.72	150.1 4	290.31	105	3453.20 5	5195.06
Tripura	240	0	1143.07	0	1153.5	0	1187.8 8	1.12	0	0	340.06	39.78	283.99	9.02	117.043	2.3225	1387.7	166.76
Uttar Pradesh	4099.06 78	98.035 75	3053.115	223.34	2835.79	696.9	3441.3	743.9 5	2451.8	2444.5 5	2142.7 8	2539.8 9	0	5725. 64	132.1082	0	22663.4 7	0
Uttarkhand	2129.95 2	208.03 4	3549.39	428.22	3720.68	461.19	3942.0 5	0	3359.79	281.40 6	3118.9 8	4980	3708.8 3	1150. 81	3476.03	566.836	3447	646.25
West Bengal	2061.82 64	14.633	2826.27	23.537	3195.18	26.21	3513.0 7	37.74	1094.23 5	0	2200	0	448.59	33.54	703.0022	12.4796	1034.11 7	6.74135
TOTAL	80696.4 5595	4054.5 6371	88029.30 415	6240.9 256	109020. 114	7526.3 343	121066 .54	7754. 99	70417.7 724	22555. 274	79446. 62	30105. 94	192329 .07	42239 .943	169379.0 433	232934.2 851	325582. 282	556979. 0449

MT- Metric Tonnes, KL- Kilo Litres
