

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 315
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH NOVEMBER, 2019

PROMOTION OF BIO-FERTILIZERS

315. DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government proposes to encourage biofertilizers instead of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in district Gopalganj of Bihar in view of their adverse effect of human health;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any study on the impact of usage of bio-fertilizers on production in district Gopalganj of Bihar; and
- (c) whether the Government would promote production/research of such bio fertilizers in rural areas of country specially in district Gopalganj of Bihar?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): Government of India has been encouraging use of bio fertilizers instead of chemical fertilizers through State Governments Including in district Gopalganj of Bihar under various schemes/ programmes, viz: 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).

ICAR under "**Network project on soil biodiversity- bio fertilizers**" has developed improved and efficient strains of biofertilizers specific to different crops and soil types. 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 cases when used along with the chemical fertilizers. Bihar Agriculture University, Bihar and KVKs including KVK Gopalganj are engaged in study on the impact of usage of bio-fertilizers. The details of assistance under various programmes of the department and research activities of ICAR are at **Annexure – I**.

Steps taken by government for promotion of organic / biofertilisers

- **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.
