

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.234
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4TH FEBRUARY, 2020

USE OF BIO-FERTILIZERS

234. SHRI MOHAMMED FAIZAL P.P.:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of adverse effects of fertilizers on human health and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has received any proposals to encourage bio-fertilizers instead of chemical fertilizers; and
- (c) if so, whether the Government has undertaken any impact study of the same, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): As such, there is no adverse effect of chemical fertilizers with balanced and judicious use as per recommendation. However, there is possibility of nitrate contamination in groundwater above the permissible limit of 10mg NO₃ –N/L due to excessive use of nitrogenous fertilizers particularly in light textured soils that has consequence on human/animal health if used for drinking purpose.

(b) & (c): States are being encouraged to use bio-fertilizers by providing:

- i) Rs. 50,000 per ha. in 3 years under Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojna (PKVY) for inputs including bio-fertilizers to farmers.
- ii) Rs. 25,000 per ha. in 3 years under Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) for both on-farm & off-farm organic inputs including bio-fertilizers.
- (iii): Rs.300 per ha. for fertilizer under National Mission on Oilseeds & Oil Palm (NMOP) and National Food Security (NFSM).

Indian Council of Agriculture (ICAR) is implementing “Network project on soil biodiversity- bio fertilizers” with 18 cooperating centres and has developed improved and efficient strains of bio-fertilizers specific to different crops and soil types. ICAR study indicates that bio-fertilizers 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
