

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 371**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2025

**INITIATIVE TO ENCOURAGE FARMERS TO ADOPT BIO-PESTICIDES**

371. SHRI PARSHOTTAMBHAI RUPALA:  
SHRI KOTA SRINIVASA POOJARY:

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

- (a) the initiatives undertaken by the Government to encourage farmers to adopt bio-pesticides and to partner with State Agricultural Universities for research on bio-pesticides;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government in collaboration with various stakeholders to address challenges related to bio-pesticides, such as the prevalence of substandard or counterfeit products, concerns about shelf life, the expensive and protracted registration process for bio-pesticides in the country and the substantial initial capital investment needed for bio-pesticide production, if so, the detailed information on each of these aspects;
- (c) whether the Government is promoting other forms of fertilizer like biofertilizers and organic fertilizers and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government for promoting its use among the farmers?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (d): Government of India promotes the use of bio pesticides, bio control agents and botanical formulations as alternative to chemical pesticides, and safe & judicious use of chemical pesticides as a last resort, through its Central Integrated Pest Management Centers (CIPMCs), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and State Agriculture Departments by undertaking various training programs. Central Insecticide Board & Registration Committee (CIB&RC) under the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) registers pesticides for use in the country only after ensuring the efficacy & safety of the pesticides and simplified guidelines has been formulated for the registration of bio

pesticides with minimal registration fee as compared to chemical pesticides and also the provisional registrations are being granted along with the permission for commercialization to adopt and encourage the use of bio-pesticides. The Insecticide Inspectors appointed u/s 20 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 by Central and State governments, draw samples from manufacturing units and sale points within their jurisdiction at regular intervals to check the sale of any substandard or counterfeit products.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) institutes are developing bio pesticides after rigorous testing through various State Agriculture Universities (SAUs) under AICRP (All India Coordinated Research Projects) programs. In collaboration with various SAUs, numerous bio control laboratories and production units have been established to facilitate the development and dissemination of biopesticides across the country. These facilities are instrumental in producing microbial pesticides and conducting research to enhance biopesticide efficacy, and also aim to reduce the initial capital investment required for biopesticide production and technical support. Further, ICAR institutes are also actively engaged in research on shelf life of bio-pesticides.

The Government also encourages the use of bio-fertilizers under Paramparagat Krishi Vikash Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) schemes. Under the PKVY scheme, farmers are provided financial assistance of Rs 15000/ ha for 3 years through DBT for on-farm and off-farm organic inputs including bio-fertilizer. Under Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER), financial assistance @ Rs 32500/ha for 3 years is provided to farmers for off-farm /on-farm organic inputs including bio-fertilizer.

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