

Government of India implements various Crop Development Schemes/Programmes through State Governments for increasing agricultural production in the country, viz., National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), Initiative for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Promotion (INSIMP), Crop Diversification Programme in Original Green Revolution States (CDP), Special Programme on Oil Palm Area Expansion (OPAE), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), etc. Under these programmes, various activities like demonstrations of high yielding varieties/hybrids, distribution of seed of improved varieties/hybrids, need based plant and soil management, resource conservation techniques, efficient water application devices and cropping system based trainings are being taken up to enhance agricultural production.

The productivity of rice has increased from 2131 kg./hectare in 2006-2007 to 2462 kg./hectare in 2012-13.

Use of bio-fertilizers

2955. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of schemes implemented by Government to promote use of bio-fertilizers in the country along with the funds allocated during Eleventh and Twelfth Five Year Plans under various schemes for the purpose;
- (b) the achievements made so far in promoting the bio-fertilizers; and
- (c) the research and development activities being made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) Under the National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF), Government is promoting production of various organic inputs in the country including bio-fertilizers. NPOF provides financial assistance upto 25% of total financial outlay upto a ceiling of Rs. 40 lakhs as credit linked back-ended subsidy for setting up Bio-fertilizers production units.

Under the Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), assistance is provided for supply of Rhizobium culture/Phosphate Solubilizing Bacteria, Azotobacter and Azospirillum culture @ 50% cost of culture or Rs. 100/- per hectare whichever is less. Under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) on Pulses, including Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P), assistance for popularizing Rhizobium culture/Phosphate Solubilising bacteria is provided to the farmers under cluster demonstrations. Similarly, under Initiative for Nutritional Security through Intensive

Millets Promotion (INSIMP) Programme, Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria/Azotobacter culture is provided to the farmers as part of technology demonstration. In addition, States are free to provide funds under RKVY for promoting use of Bio-fertiliser with the prior approval of State level sanctioning committee under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary. Details of funds allocated under NPOF, INSIMP, ISOPOM and NFSM during Eleventh and Twelfth Five Year Plans are given in Statement (*See below*).

Under NPOF, a total of 56 nos. bio-fertilizers production units and 17 nos. of fruit/vegetables waste compost units have been established in the country. Government has been advocating integrating use of chemical fertilizers and organic manures including bio-fertilizers for increasing production of major crops. All India Network Project on Soil Bio-diversity-Bio-fertilizers is implemented by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for R&D on bio-fertilizers. The ICAR has developed technologies to prepare various types of organic manures such as phosphocompost, *vermi-compost*, municipal solid waste compost etc. Improved and efficient strains of bio-fertilizers specific to different crops and soil types are being developed under Network Project on bio-fertilizers.

Central Government has notified bio-fertilizers like Rhizobium, Azotobacter, Azospirillum, Acetobacter, PSB, KMB, Zinc Solubilizing bacteria under Fertilizer Control Order (FCO).

Statement

*Details of funds allocated under various schemes for use of
bio-fertilizers are as under*

(Rs. in lakh)

Scheme	Eleventh Five Year Plan					Twelfth Five Year Plan		
	Year	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14*
NPOF		250.00	118.33	—	150.00	—	109.7426	300.00
INSIMP**		—	—	—	—	300.00	175.00	100.00
ISOPOM		454.83	604.27	427.41	850.63	854.47	554.04	433.73
NFSM***		531.20	4600.25	5966.72	4390.26	3088.42	3537.81	3919.66

*Upto 30.11.2013.

**INSIMP Scheme was launched *w.e.f.* 2011-12.

***Under NFSM Pulses, the fund is allocated for Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) components including bio-fertilizers. Separate record for bio-fertilizers component is not maintained.