

Government is promoting organic farming through various schemes/programmes Under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Network Project on Organic Farming of ICAR and National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP).

Financial assistance is provided through State Governments for:

- (a) Organic Village adoption for manure management and biological nitrogen harvesting.
- (b) Promotion of Organic Input production on farmer's field.
- (c) Promotion of Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification for area under organic farming.
- (d) Promotion of NPOP certification for area under export.

Assistance is also provided for setting up of mechanized Fruit/Vegetable market waste/Agro waste compost production unit and Bio fertilizer/Bio pesticide units through NABARD.

Shortage of urea and chemical fertilizers

†*271. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards shortage of urea and other chemical fertilizers in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) whether Government is making any plan to meet the shortage of fertilizers and chemical fertilizers to address the problems of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): (a) Sir, there is no shortage of urea and other chemical fertilizers in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Following steps are being taken by the Government to provide adequate supply of fertilizers to the farmers in all the States/UTs.

1. The month-wise demand is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture & Co-operation (DAC) in consultation with the State Governments before commencement of each cropping season.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

2. On the basis of month-wise & State-wise projection given by DAC, Department of Fertilizers allocates sufficient/adequate quantities of fertilizers to States by issuing monthly supply plan and continuously monitors the availability through following system:-
- (i) The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS);
 - (ii) The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents for railway rakes through their state institutional agencies like Markfed etc.
 - (iii) Regular Weekly Video Conference is conducted jointly by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC), Department of Fertilizers (DoF), and Ministry of Railways with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.
 - (iv) Priority is accorded to Urea movement by Railway during peak consumption period in each season.
3. Distribution within the State is the responsibility of the concerned State Government.

Pantry car in all long distance trains

*272.SHRI JOY ABRAHAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incident of food poisoning of passengers on the 8th November, 2014 in Lokmanya Tilak - Kochuveli Garib Rath Express, which is running without a pantry car, has come to the notice of the Ministry;

(b) if so, the steps the Ministry would take to ensure the quality of food and beverages sold on railway platforms by vendors;

(c) the number of long distance trains which are running without pantry cars; and

(d) whether the Ministry would consider providing pantry cars in all long distance trains?