

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS
RAJYA SABHA

UN STARRED QUESTION NO. 2569 TO BE ANSWERED ON : 21.12.2021

Compulsory use of bio-fertilizers with urea

2569. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI:

Will the Minister of **CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to make use of bio-fertilizers compulsory along with urea for better soil health;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and by when this system is likely to be made compulsory;
- (c) whether Government has short listed the bio-fertilizers and fixed the contents of nutrients therein to ensure that the production is not reduced; and
- (d) whether there is any proposal to transfer the subsidy on urea to the farmers and not the manufacturers contrary to the existing system?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE AND CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) to (b): There is no proposal to make use of bio-fertilizers compulsory along with Urea. However, Government has been promoting the concept of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) for maintaining soil fertility and optimum plant nutrient supply for sustaining the desired productivity through integrated use of inorganic, bio/ organic fertilisers. Bio-fertilizers are integral part of package of practices developed by Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) and State Agriculture Universities. ICAR/ Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) also conduct training to farmers on INM practices.

(c) : Bio-fertilizers are carrier based (solid or liquid) living microorganisms which are agriculturally useful in terms of nitrogen fixation, phosphorus, potash and other nutrient solubilisation or mobilization, to increase the productivity of the soil and crop. So far 11 biofertilisers namely-Rhizobium, Azotobacter, Azospirillum, Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria, Mycorrhizal Bio-fertilizers, Potassium Mobilising Biofertilizers (KMB), Zinc Solubilising Bio-fertilizers (ZSB), Acetobacter, Carrier Based Consortia, Liquid Consortia and Phosphate Solubilising Fungal Biofertilizer have been notified in Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985. Bio-fertilisers are notified majorly based on viable cell count of microorganisms and type of carrier used (peat, lignite, peat soil, humus, wood charcoal, liquid or similar material favouring growth of the organism).

(d) There is no such proposal.
