

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2654 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 04.08.2023**

**Promotion of Alternative Fertilizers**

**2654: SHRIMATI RANJANBEN DHANANJAY BHATT:**

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to promote alternative fertilizers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has contemplated to take any step so far in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS  
**(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)**

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(a) to (e): Yes, Sir. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 28th June, 2023 has approved the "PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness Generation, Nourishment, and Amelioration of Mother-Earth (PM-PRANAM)". The initiative aims to support the mass movement started by States/UTs to save the health of Mother Earth by promoting sustainable and balanced use of fertilizers, adopting alternate fertilizers, promoting organic farming and implementing resource conservation technologies. Under the said scheme, 50% of the fertilizer subsidy saved by a State/UT in a particular financial year by way of reduction in consumption of chemical fertilizers (Urea, DAP, NPK, MOP) compared to previous 3 years' average consumption, will be passed on to that State/UT as Grant.

Further, CCEA in its meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 has approved the Market Development Assistance (MDA) @ Rs. 1500/MT to promote organic fertilizers, i.e. manure produced at plants under GOBARdhan initiative covering different Biogas/CBG support schemes/programmes of stakeholder Ministries/Departments such as Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) scheme of MoPNG, 'Waste to Energy' programme of MNRE, Swachh Bharat Mission (Rural) of DDWS, etc. with total outlay of Rs. 1451.84 Crore (FY 2023-24 to 2025-26), which includes a corpus of Rs. 360 crore for research gap funding, etc.

For reducing the use of chemical fertilizers in agriculture, Government of India (GoI) is promoting the balanced and judicious use of fertilizers based on soil test based recommendations in conjunction with organic fertilizer and bio-fertilizers. Further, under organic schemes of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Namami Gange, Bhartiya Prakritik Krishi Padhati (BPKP), Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North- Eastern Region (MOVCDNER), National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) etc., farmers are provided assistance for use of organic and bio-fertilizers. Further, National Centre for Organic Farming (NCOF) is involved in awareness generation & training activities for promotion of organic farming.

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