

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 696
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25TH JULY, 2023

STRATEGIES FOR ORGANIC FERTILIZERS

696. SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE

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

- (a) whether the Government has any strategies in place to address the structural and economic hurdles that hinder the adoption of organic fertilizers, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government has proposed any initiatives to increase awareness and demand for certified organic products to encourage farmers to opt for organic farming;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether some measures have been taken to improve storage and distribution infrastructure for organic fertilizers in rural areas and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): To promote adoption of organic fertilizers, Government is promoting organic farming using organic fertilizers through the schemes of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER). PKVY is being implemented in all the States other-than North Eastern States, across the country whereas MOVCDNER scheme is being implemented exclusively in the NE States. Under PKVY and MOVCDNER scheme, farmers are directly provided financial assistance of Rs. 31000/ha for 3 years and Rs 32500/ ha for 3 years through DBT for on-farm and off-farm organic inputs including organic fertilizers.

Use of organic fertilizers has been made integral part of package of practices of all crops. Under Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), States are provided assistance to promote Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) through judicious use of Chemical Fertilizers in conjunction with organic manures and bio-fertilizers. Under SHC scheme various training demonstration programme as well as farmer's melas and workshops are organized.

In order to ensure the availability of good quality of organic-fertilizers, the Government regulates its quality under the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), (1985). Government has notified 32 quality testing laboratory and initiated steps to accredit its laboratories to strengthen quality

control activities. Government has also developed a web portal (<https://frs.dbtfert.nic.in/>) for online registration of all kind of fertilizer to make registration more easy and simplified.

To incentivize the farmers to reduce the overall consumption of fertilizers for improving soil health and fertility and sustainable productivity, Government has announced “PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother Earth (PM-PRANAM)” to incentivize States and Union Territories to promote the use of alternative fertilizers such as organic and bio-fertilizers. Under the programme, state Governments will be incentivized to the tune of 50% of fertilizer subsidy saved for promotion of organic and natural farming and organic fertilizers.

Under Mission Life programme Government is taking up various environment friendly Initiative to encourage natural and organic farming using organic and bio-fertilizer for reduced emission of Green House Gas (GHG) through reduction of use of chemical fertilizer and pesticides.

(b) & (c): For increasing awareness and demand for certified organic products, Government has taken several initiatives under PKVY and MOVCDNER schemes through training, handholding and publicity and awareness programme and support postharvest handling and marketing including branding.

Under PKVY, assistance is provided @ Rs 7500/ha for 3 years for training and capacity building where-as under MOVCDNER scheme assistance is provided @ Rs 10000/ha for 3 years. For marketing, branding, value addition, publicity etc. assistance is provided @ Rs. 8800/ha for 3 years whereas, need based assistance is provided for marketing branding and publicity programme under MOVCDNER scheme.

National Center of Organic and Natural Farming (NCONF) and its Regional Center of Organic and Natural Farming located at Ghaziabad, Nagpur, Bangalore, Imphal and Bhubaneswar are organizing various HRD trainings namely One Day Farmers’ Training, Two Days Training for Extension Officers/Staff, Two Days Training on PGS, 30 Days Certificate course, One day Jaivik evam Prakratik Kisan Sammelan for 500 participants, One Day Stakeholder consultations/ conferences on Natural Farming for 100 participants, Orientation Program on Natural Farming and awareness programmes across the country to disseminate information on organic and natural farming as well as on- farm production and use of various kinds of organic and bio-fertilizers. NCONF and RCONF also organize online awareness campaign and training programmes on organic and natural farming and production and use of organic and bio-fertilizers.

The ICAR also imparts trainings, organizes front-line demonstrations, awareness progrmas etc. to educate farmers on organic farming.

(d): Government is not directly supporting storage and distribution of organic fertilizers but to promote the use of organic fertilizers, Government has announced Market Development Assistance (MDA) @ Rs 1500/tonnes for Fermented Organic Manure (FOM), Liquid Organic Manure (LOM) and Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM).
