

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2085**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022

**BIO-FERTILIZERS**

2085. SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT:

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

- (a) whether the 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 the 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 existing system?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): There is no proposal to make use of bio-fertilizers compulsory along-with the urea. However, use of bio-fertilizer is recommended under Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) strategies and organic farming for use in all crops.

(c): Bio-fertilizers are live microbial products which does not contain any nutrients. The micro-organisms present in the bio-fertilizer ensure availability of nutrients from non-available form present within soil and air to available form which plants can uptake. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed improved and efficient strains of bio-fertilizers specific to different crops and soil types under All India Network Project (AINP) on Soil Biodiversity-Bio-fertilizers and informed that Bio-fertilizers can improve crop yields by 10-25% and supplement costly chemical fertilizers (N, P) by

nearly 20-25% in most of the cases when used along with chemical fertilizers without any reduction in production.

11 bio-fertilizers namely; Rhizobium, Azotobactor, Azospirillum, Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria, Mycorrhizal Bio-fertilisers, Potassium Mobilizing Bio-fertilizers (KMB) Zinc Solubilizing Biofertilizers (ZSB) Acetobactor, Carrier Based Consortia, Liquid Consortia , and Phosphate Solubilising Fungus have been notified and included into **the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985**. The quality standards of these bio-fertilizers have been specified under the FCO, 1985.

(d): At present, there is no such proposal to transfer the subsidy on urea to the farmers and not the manufacturers

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