

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2730
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2006
PRODUCTION OF BIO FERTILIZERS
Jha Shri Raghunath;Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) The total production of Bio-Fertilizers in the country as on October 31, 2006, company-wise and State-wise ;
- (b) Whether the demand of Bio-Fertilizers is increasing day-by-day due to its nutrient value and Eco-friendliness; and
- (c) If so, the steps taken for promotion and publicity for maximum use of Bio- Fertilizers by the farmers in the country ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) : The total production of bio-fertilizers in the country during 2005-06 is 10,764.42 Metric Tonnes. The company-wise and State-wise production is given at Annexure.

(b) & (c): Bio-fertilizers are eco-friendly fertilizers, therefore, their demand is increasing. In order to promote bio-fertilizers in the country, the Government provided financial assistance of Rs.20.00 lakh per unit for setting up of bio-fertilizers production units under `national Project on Development & Use of Bio-fertilizers` during IX Plan and 2002-03. Training courses and field demonstrations/farmers fairs were also organized for creating awareness about use of bio-fertilizers amongst the farming community. The scheme has been subsumed under a new Central Sector Scheme `National Project on Organic Farming` from October, 2004. Under the new scheme, credit linked back ended subsidy is being provided for setting up of bio-fertilizer production units @25% of the project cost up to a maximum of Rs.20.00 lakh per unit through National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development

(NABARD) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). Under this scheme also, training courses, field demonstrations, farmers fairs, exhibitions, seminars publicity through print and electronic media are being organized for organic inputs including bio- fertilizers.