GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OFAGRICULTURE RAJYA SABHA QUESTION NO27.11.2009 ANSWERED ON

ORGANIC FARMING.

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Shri Natuji Halaji Thakor

Will the Minister of COALCOALAGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government is aware of the growing need for organic farming in the country in view of media reports on adulterated food items being sold by vendors;
- (b) whether Government proposes to formulate a national policy to promote organic farming in the country; and
- (c) if so, by when such a policy is likely to be formulated?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

(SHRI K.V. THOMAS)

- (a):The Government is aware of the need for organic farming due to increased demand for chemical residue free food and for food items grown without use of chemicals. Deterioration of soil fertility and decrease in soil organic matter have also drawn attention towards organic farming.
- (b) & (c):The Government has already formulated a National Policy on Organic Farming which seeks to promote technically sound, economically viable, environmentallynon-degrading and socially acceptable use of natural resources in favour of organic agriculture.

In order to facilitate, encourage and promote organic farming the Government has launched a `National Project on Organic Farming`.