

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2580**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11/08/2023

**ORGANIC FARMING IN SIKKIM**

2580. SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to enumerate the average yield per hectare in Sikkim before and after the ban on use of fertilisers in 2014, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has been able to ensure timely availability of organic manure among private farms in Sikkim, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government proposes to enumerate the extent of pest attacks in farms in Sikkim, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): A comparative statement of the performance of agricultural and horticultural crops before and after 2014 as received from Agriculture Department, Government of Sikkim is as under:

Particulars	2010-11 to 2014-15			2015-16 to 2019-20		
	Area (in 000 ha)	Production (in '000 tonnes)	Productivity (in kg/ha)	Area (in 000 ha)	Production (in '000 tonnes)	Productivity (in kg/ha)
<b>Agricultural crops</b>						
Cereals	60.68	97.46	1606.13	54.66	92.35	1689.53
Pulses	6.48	5.91	912.03	4.81	4.61	958.41
Oilseeds	8.61	7.45	865.27	6.42	5.91	920.56
<b>Horticulture Crops</b>						
Fruits	14.91	23.57	1580.81	18.69	41.19	2203.85
Vegetables	14.83	78.78	5312.20	16.52	85.98	5539.95
Roots & Tuber crops	10.64	51.92	4879.70	11.67	52.31	4482.43
Spices	21.28	58.32	2740.60	37.45	89.94	2401.60

(b) & (c): Government of India has been promoting organic farming on priority in North Eastern States including Sikkim through the scheme Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) since 2015-16. The scheme provides end-to-end support to farmers engaged in organic farming i.e. from production to processing, certification and marketing and post-harvest management Training and Capacity Building are integral part of the scheme. Under the scheme, an assistance of Rs. 46,575/ha for 3years is provided for creation of FPO, support to farmers for organic inputs, quality seeds/ planting material and training, hand holding and certification. Out of this, assistance @ Rs. 32500/ ha for 3 years is provided to farmers for off -farm /on –farm organic inputs under the scheme including Rs. 15,000 as DBT to the farmers and Rs. 17,500 for the planting material to be given to the farmers by State Lead Agency (SLA) in kind.

Government of Sikkim has informed that to promote organic farming in the State, it is providing various organic input production infrastructure in the farms (private) such as rural compost pit, vermicompost pit, azolla ponds *etc* to ensure production of inputs in time. This is aimed at production of on farm inputs by the farmers themselves. These infrastructures have been established through financial support received from the Centre and the State. As a part of capacity building of farmers, trainings are being regularly imparted through Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA), SAMETI and by various schemes of the Departments of Agriculture and Horticulture.

(d) & (e): The Government has always been keeping track of pest and disease attacks/outbreaks and the recent major pest attack was that of Fall Army Worm (*Spodopterafrugiperda*) (FAW) in maize. Organic management practices have been introduced, as a result, the pest attack has been drastically reduced. During the period between 2019-20 to 2022-23 the average area under FAW attacks was 1695.28 ha whereas during 2023-24, the affected area reported is only 114.01 ha, the reduction of which has been possible by continuous monitoring and management. Similarly, the Chinese citrus fly (*Bactroceraaminax*) was also identified this year to cause fruit drop through monitoring and the Department of Horticulture is undertaking studies to manage the pest.

However, the Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine & Storage through its Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Gangtok is carrying out regular survey on the crop pests in the Sikkim State.

The field survey reports revealed that the following pest incidences on crops were reported during last four years (2019-20 to 2022-23):

Year	Crop	Pest	Pest Intensity
2019-20	Rice	Army worm ( <i>Mythimna separata</i> )	Moderate to Severe
2020-21	Rice	Leaf Folder	Trace to Moderate
2021-22	Maize	Fall Armyworm	Trace to Low
2022-23	<u>Incidence of Pests were recorded in trace to low intensity on the following crops:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Stem borer in paddy</li> <li>2. Fall Army worm, Pink stem borer &amp; aphid in maize</li> <li>3. White fly &amp; aphid in tomato</li> <li>4. Fruit fly, Leaf miner &amp; Aphid in cucurbits</li> <li>5. Aphids in cruciferous crops</li> <li>6. Aphids in mustard</li> <li>7. Cutworm on Potato</li> <li>8. Anthracnose in chilli</li> <li>9. Fruit fly and trunk borer in Citrus</li> </ol>		

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