

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2410**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY, 2018

**FARMER PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS**

2410. SHRI PREM DAS RAI:

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

- (a) the details of policy initiatives being taken by the Government to promote and strengthen Farmer Producer Organisations in the States;
- (b) whether training on scientifically accredited sustainable farming methods has been provided to farmers under the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the success achieved thereunder?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a): Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium (SFAC), a registered society under Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare, is promoting Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) by mobilizing the farmers, helping them in registering as company and giving them training for their sustainability. So far, SFAC has helped 666 FPOs in registering as companies. Further to this, SFAC provides matching equity grant subject to maximum of Rs. 10.00 lakh per Farmer Producer Company. SFAC also supports FPOs through Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme, which provides a Credit Guarantee cover to Eligible Lending Institutions to enable them to provide collateral free credit. Under Venture Capital Assistance scheme, an interest free loan is provided to FPCs/entrepreneurs by SFAC to meet shortfall in the capital requirement for implementation of the agribusiness project. FPOs can also avail financial assistance under various schemes of the Government such as Agricultural Market Infrastructure (AMI) and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme. Under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), State Governments can also seek financial assistance for formation of FPOs.

In addition to above, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is also promoting FPOs in the States. They provide grant support to existing FPOs towards capacity building, market linkages etc. along with the credit support for business development from Producer Organization Development Fund (PODF) under which NABARD has supported 221 existing FPOs.

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Under Producer's Organisation Development and Upliftment (PRODUCE) Fund, NABARD has target for promoting and nurturing of 2000 FPOs over three year period.

(b) & (c): The National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF), Ghaziabad, a subordinate office of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare, Government of India, undertakes various extension and publicity activities like exhibitions, radio talks, TV programmes, distribution of literature on organic inputs/ organic farming etc. to educate the farmers. NCOF organizes 30 days certificate course on organic farming for skill development, 10 days Refresher course for analysts, 5 Days Trainers' Training & 2 Days training for field functionaries and extension staff of the State Government. NCOF has also been organizing Farmers' Training and Field Demonstration (FTFD) programmes on organic farming. Since 2015-16 till date, it has completed 706 numbers of FTFD training programmes.

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