

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 494
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH DECEMBER, 2017

ASSISTANCE FOR ORGANIC FARMING

494. DR. BANSHILAL MAHATO:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide assistance to encourage and promote organic farming in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether various studies have identified that organic farming can increase productivity and fertility of land in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the response of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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

(a) & (b): Government is promoting organic farming and providing financial assistance through the schemes of Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) under National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). The details are given at **Annexure I & II**.

(c) to (e): Indian Council of Agricultural Research through its Plan Scheme "Network Project on Organic Farming" (NPOF) is undertaking research to develop location specific organic farming package of practices for crops and cropping systems. Presently, the project is being implemented in 20 centres covering 16 States. Organic farming package of practices for 45 crops/cropping systems have been developed to provide technical backstopping to Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) scheme being implemented in the country.

Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)-

The Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is the first comprehensive scheme launched by the Central Government as a centrally sponsored programme (CSP), where the Central and State Governments share the funding in varying ratio. It is 100% in UT, 90:10 in North-Eastern and Hilly States and 60:40 in case of other States. The scheme is implemented by the State Governments. It is implemented on a cluster basis of 20 hectare each. The farmer within the cluster is given financial assistance upto a maximum of 1 ha and the limit of assistance is Rs.50,000 per ha during the conversion period of 3 years. The target is to promote 10,000 clusters covering 2 lakh ha over the period of 3 years, 2015-16 to 2017-18. **In order to implement the PKVY in the 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 an amount of Rs.300 crore, Rs. 297 crore and Rs. 350 crore has been allocated respectively to the States.**

Annexure II

Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has launched a Central Sector Scheme entitled "Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region" for promoting organic farming in the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. The scheme aims at development of certified organic production in a value chain mode to link growers with consumers and to support the development of entire value chain starting from inputs, seeds, certification and creation of facilities for collection, aggregation, processing, marketing and brand building initiative.

The assistance is provided for cluster development, on/off farm input production, supply of seeds/ planting materials, setting up of functional infrastructure, establishment of integrated processing unit, refrigerated transportation, pre-cooling /cold stores chamber, branding labeling and packaging, hiring of space, hand holdings, organic certification through third party, mobilization of farmers/processors etc. Under this scheme, an area of 50,000 ha. have been targeted to be covered under organic farming in North Eastern Region of the country during the period of three years i.e. from year 2015-16 to 2017-18. An amount of Rs.112.11 crore, 47.63 crore and 34.02 crore have been released to the states during the period of 2015-16 to 2017-18.
