

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2979
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd AUGUST, 2018**

NORMS FOR SALE OF ORGANIC PRODUCTS

**2979. SHRI KUNDARIYA MOHAN BHAI KALYANJI BHAI:
SHRI D.S. RATHOD:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether FSSAI has notified any rules/norms for sale of organic products in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has made it mandatory to obtain certificates and licenses for production and sale of organic products; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b): Yes. As mandated in Section 22 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) notified Food Safety and Standards (Organic Foods) Regulations, 2017 in the Gazette of India dated 29.12.2017. As per the Regulations, no person shall manufacture, pack, sell, offer for sale, market or otherwise distribute or import any organic food unless they comply with the requirements laid down therein.

As per the said Regulations, the organic food offered or promoted for sale shall also comply with all the applicable provisions of one of the following systems, namely:-

- (i) National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP)
- (ii) Participatory Guarantee System for India (PGS-India)

To promote organic farming and domestic organic market, a free/no cost domestic organic certification system called Participatory Guarantee System –India (PGS-India) is being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers’ Welfare. NPOP Certification is a third party system which was meant for exports but now due to the certification being recognised in domestic Regulations, it will be applicable for imports and domestic market also. The organic food which is marketed through direct sales by the small original producer or producer organisation to the end consumer is exempted from the provisions of the systems referred in above. Small original producers or producer organisations have been defined by the direction dated 29.06.2018 as those having the business with an annual turnover not exceeding Rs.12 lacs per annum.

(c) & (d): The Food Business Operator manufacturing /processing or handling organic food shall have to obtain license under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 or get the organic food endorsed in their existing license through Food Licensing and Registration System (FLRS) within three months from the date of issue of the direction dated 29.06.2018.