

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 999
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08TH FEBRUARY, 2023

CERTIFICATION OF ORGANIC COTTON

999. SHRI SHANMUGA SUNDARAM K.:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the ongoing scam in the certification of organic cotton where non-organic cotton is falsely certified as organic for the purposes of export and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard to prevent the same?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): No such specific information has been received in this Department.

(b): The National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) provides standards for organic production, system, criteria and procedure for accreditation of Certification Bodies (CBs). The standards and procedure have been formulated in harmony with other international Standards regulating import and export of organic products.

NPOP is a third party accreditation and certification system carried out by Certification Bodies (CBs) for various organic agricultural crops, Livestock Production, Apiculture, Aquaculture, Food Processing and Handling.

In case of cotton, National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) Standards covers regulation up to production level for raw cotton. Further processing of cotton into textile for export is not covered under NPOP.

There are inbuilt provisions and checks for risk assessment, inspection and surveillance and sanctions under Chapter 4 of NPOP Standards.
