

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1745**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 27<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2022**

**ORGANIC CERTIFICATION**

1745. SHRI K. NAVASKANI:

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

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that most organic farmers are unaware of or are unable to obtain organic certification; and
- (b) if so, the remedial steps that are proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**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) & (b): Organic farming in India is practiced under the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) of the Department of Commerce and the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare. To facilitate certification at an affordable cost, the Government has launched PGS, which is farmer group centric, requires very little documentation and is very low cost. The Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), an autonomous organization under the Department of Commerce, conducts capacity building programmes, webinars etc. for farmers, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and other stakeholders, in different parts of the country, to increase awareness about the requirements for organic certification under both NPOP and PGS. APEDA, in collaboration with the University of Agriculture Sciences, Dharwad, has also organized an online course on organic certification. The Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, through the National Centre for Organic and Natural Farming (NCONF), also organises various outreach programs in virtual as well as in physical mode. So far about 25 Lakh farmers have been registered under NPOP, whereas about 13 Lakh farmers are registered under PGS- India programme.

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