GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1962 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11th MARCH, 2025

National Cooperative Organic Limited

1962 Shri Dileshwar Kamait: Shri Shankar Lalwani: Shri Ramvir Singh Bidhuri: Shri Rajkumar Chahar: Smt. Bijuli Kalita Medhi: Shri Tapir Gao

Will the Minister of Cooperation (सहकारिता मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) the various special strategies or work schemes discussed in the meeting held between the Ministry and NCOL (National Cooperative Organic Limited) to promote organic farming through Cooperatives Societies;
- (b) whether any policy changes or new regulations were proposed during the said review meeting to encourage the development of organic farming through Cooperative Societies; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION सहकारिता मंत्री (SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a): In the meeting between the Ministry of Cooperation and National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL), key strategies discussed to promote organic farming through cooperative societies included strengthening farmer cooperatives, providing remunerative prices to organic farmers, enhancing market linkages, ensuring quality certification, 100% batch testing, expanding infrastructure for organic production, providing capacity-building support to member cooperatives for organic cultivation and marketing the authentic organic products under the brand "Bharat Organics".

(b) to (c): Ministry of Commerce and Industry is implementing a third-party certification system for organic products under the National Program for Organic Production (NPOP). The NPOP, notified under the Foreign Trade Development Regulations (FTDR) Act 1992 provides a robust framework for the certification, production, and trade of organic products. Meetings were held between the Ministry of Cooperation, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, APEDA and NCOL to review the NPOP for suitably accommodating the participation of cooperatives. As a result, APEDA, which is the Secretariat of NPOP, on 9th January 2025 launched the 8th edition of NPOP - 2024, wherein several farmer-oriented reforms have been incorporated and cooperatives have been made a legal entity for various activities, including the formation of grower groups.