LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3905 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 22ND DECEMBER, 2015

ORGANIC FARMING

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

(a) the details of organic crops being produced and marketing facilities available for organic crops in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to accord priority to organic farming to make agriculture a sustainable, eco-friendly and remunerative profession for the small and marginal farmers and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to educate the farmers/consumers about the benefits of organic crops/foods and harmful effects of chemical fertilizers and pesticides and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has constituted any Committee to inspect and monitor the promotion of organic farming under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the special package given/proposed to be given by the Government for development of bio-agriculture in the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe dominated areas?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

(a): As per the data provided by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) total certified organic produce under National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP) during the year 2014-15 is 1095754.14 MT. Crop/ category wise detail is attached at **Annexure –I** and State-wise production details is at **Annexure – II** Financial assistance is provided to State Governments under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna (PKVY) to promote marketing facilities for organic produce under cluster as follows: (i) procuring packaging material, preparation of labels, holograms, printing and branding of organic produce @ Rs. 2500/ acre. (ii) For transportation of organic produce to market places, financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 120,000 for one cluster of 50 acre is also provided. (iii) To motivate and support marketing facilities financial assistance given @ Rs. 36330 per cluster for organizing organic fair to meet the expenses of arranging stalls, rent and labour charges, publicity material and management of event.

(b): Government is promoting organic farming across the country under various Central Sector Schemes viz. National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Mission on Oil Seed and Oil Palm (NMOOP), Network Project on Organic Farming of Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP) of Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) etc. for the benefit of all including small and marginal farmers. The pattern of financial assistance provided to State Governments through various schemes for promotion of organic farming is given at **Annexure-III.**

During the year 2015-16 under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) funds to the tune of Rs.179 crore has been released to the State Governments for promotion of Organic Farming.

(c): National Centre of Organic Farming, Ghaziabad and its six Regional Centres are conducting various extension and publicity activities like exhibitions, radio talks, TV programmes, distribution of literature on organic inputs/organic farming etc. to educate farmers. During 2015-16 (till November, 2015), 186 number of training programmes have been organized under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY), which have benefitted 11546 number of farmers across the country.

The Government is popularizing Integrated Pest Management Approach to reduce use of pesticides since 1991-92 through 35 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) established across the Country. CIPMCs conduct pest surveillance, monitor pest incidence/situation, mass produce biological agents for releasing in the fields, conserve natural bio-control agents, promote bio-pesticides as an alternative to chemical pesticides and advocate judicious and safe use of chemical pesticides as a last resort. These activities are implemented through Farmers Field Schools (FFSs).

(d): The Government has not constituted any Committee to inspect and monitor the promotion of organic farming under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) so far.

(e): Organic farming shall be promoted in such areas like hilly, tribal and also rain-fed areas where utilization of chemical fertilizers and pesticide is less.

There is a provision of financial assistance in all these Schemes @ 9% and 17% for Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Scheduled Castes (SC) farmers (all India average) respectively.

Besides, ICAR is also promoting organic food production in integrated farming system under Tribal Sub Plan component through cluster approach in tribal areas of Meghalaya.

CATEGORY WISE PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC CERTIFIED PRODUCTS

FOR THE YEAR 2014-15

Category	Organic Production (in MT)
Cereals	159500.16
Dry fruits	7348.39
Fibre crops	208931.40
Fodder Crops	44.06
Fruits	20218.84
Medicinal/Herbal & Aromatic Plants (Crops)	32663.25
Oil Seed crops	228414.22
Ornamental Plants & Flowers	2358.41
Plantation crops	33929.77
Pulses	34717.45
Spices & Condiments	18176.21
Sugar Crops	338192.74
Tuber Crops	165.92
Vegetables	10823.93
Miscellaneous (others)	269.40
Total	1095754.14

Source : APEDA - Data provided by the accredited Certification Bodies under NPOP on tracenet.

<u>State wise Organic Certified Production (excluding wild harvest) under NPOP</u> <u>during last three years (in MT)</u>

S. No.	Name of State	2014-15
1.	A & N Islands	00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	9556.78
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	00
4.	Assam	7515.37
5.	Bihar	00
6.	Chhattisgarh	4579.94
7.	Goa	3427.63
8.	Gujarat	60621.45
9.	Haryana	2833.38
10.	Himachal Pradesh	227.26
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	11234.83
12.	Jharkhand	00
13.	Karnataka	254664.37
14.	Kerala	9122.56
15.	Lakshadweep	00
16.	Madhya Pradesh	321586.83
17.	Maharashtra	217112.20
18.	Meghalaya	1738.29
19.	Mizoram	00
20.	Manipur	00
21.	Nagaland	391.67
22.	New Delhi	00
23.	Orissa	28678.65
24.	Pudducherry	3.00
25.	Punjab	506.77
26.	Rajasthan	59449.77
27.	Sikkim	67.63
28.	Tamil Nadu	17218.40
29.	Telangana	164.00
30.	Tripura	262.82
31.	Uttar Pradesh	50165.63
32.	Uttarakhand	23695.78
33.	West Bengal	10929.11
34.	Total	1095754.12

Source: APEDA - Data provided by the accredited Certification Bodies under NPOP on tracenet.

<u>Annexure-III</u>

Pattern of assistance for promotion of organic farming

Component	Pattern of assistance
NMSA	
 Setting up of mechanized Fruit/Vegetable market waste/ Agro waste compost production unit. 	100% Assistance to State Govt/Govt. Agencies upto a maximum limit of Rs. 190.00 lakh /unit and 33% of cost limited to Rs.63 lakh/unit for individuals/ private agencies through NABARD as capital investment for 3000 TPA production capacity
2.Setting up of State of art liquid/ carrier based Biofertilizer/ Biopesticide units	100% Assistance to State Govt/Govt. Agencies upto a maximum limit of Rs.160.00 lakh /unit and 25% of cost limited to Rs.40 lakh/unit for individuals/ private agencies through NABARD as capital investment of 200 TPA production capacity
3. Setting up of Bio-fertilizer and Organic fertilizer testing Quality Control Laboratory (BOQCL) or Strengthening of existing Laboratory under FCO.	Assistance up to maximum limit of Rs. 85 lakh for new laboratory and up to a maximum limit of Rs. 45 lakh for strengthening of existing infrastructure to State Government Laboratory under Agriculture or Horticulture Department.
 4. Promotion of Organic Inputs on farmer's field (Manure, Vermi-compost, Bio-Fertilizers Liquid / solid, Waste compost, Herbal extracts etc.) 	50 % of cost subject to a limit of Rs. 5000/- per ha and Rs. 10,000 per beneficiary. Propose to cover 1 million ha area.
5. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana - (PKVY) Adoption of organic farming through cluster approach under Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) Certification.	Under PKVY scheme- Fifty or more farmers will form a cluster and their 50 acres of land will be brought under Organic Farming. In order to facilitate this, the ceiling of subsidy that a farmer is eligible shall be a maximum of one hectare and the total financial assistance eligible for a 50 acre cluster shall be a maximum of Rs. 10 lakh for farmer members and Rs. 4.95 lakh for mobilization and Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) Certification.
6.Support to research for development of organic package of practices specific to state and cropping system	Against specific proposal
7.Setting up of separate Organic Agriculture Research and Teaching Department	Against specific proposal
MIDH	
Vermi compost Units/organic input production	50% of cost conforming to the size of the unit of 30'X8'X2.5' dimension of permanent structure to be administered on pro-rata basis. For HDPE Vermibed, 50% of cost conforming to the size of 96 cft (12'X4'X2') and IS 15907:2010 to be administered on pro-rata basis (Rs. 100,000/ unit for permanent structure and Rs. 16,000/unit for HDPE Vermibed).

RKVY

Under RKVY, State Governments have flexibility and autonomy in the process of selection, planning, approval and execution of schemes including Organic Farming, as per their priorities. Accordingly, cost of projects under Organic Farming are approved by respective State Level Sanctioning Committees.

NPOP:

NPOP was notified under Foreign Trade Development & Regulation Act (FTDR) in year 2001, primarily for regulation and certification of organic commodities meant for export. It provides institutional mechanism for the implementation of National Standards for Organic Production, through a National Accreditation Policy and Programme. It covers crop production, animal husbandry, food processing, labeling, storage and transport.

NMOOP:

Has launched a scheme for increasing production and productivity of oilseed crops in the country. The expenditure on subsidies is mostly shared on 60: 40 sharing basis between Central and State Government. Financial assistance is being provided for different type of components including biofertilisers, Supply of Rhyzobium culture/Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria (PSB)/ Zinc Solubilising Bacteria (ZSB)/ Azatobacter/ Mycorrhiza and vermi compost.

ICAR:

ICAR Research Centres are involved in developing Package of Practices for different crops and cropping system under Organic Farming in different agro-eco regions of country.
