

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2984
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2004
PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC MANURE
Senthil Dr. Raman

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures taken to promote organic farming and increase its production;
- (b) whether private sector will be involved in its production; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a): To promote organic farming in the country, Government has recently approved a Central Sector Plan Scheme, National Project on Organic Farming with an outlay of Rs.57.05 crores for production, promotion, certification and market development of organic farming during the remaining period of 10th plan with the following main components:-

-? Putting in place a system of certification of organic produce including prescribing national standards for organic farming.

-? Capacity building of organic farming through service providers.

-? Financial assistance to the commercial production units or organic inputs like -

- (a) fruits and vegetable waste compost units
- (b) bio-fertilizers; and
- (c) hatcheries for vermi-culture.

-? Training, field demonstrations, promotion and market development.

In addition, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority is encouraging the production and export of organic produce.

(b)&(c): Yes, Sir. Private sector is being involved in the production and promotion of organic farming both for domestic market and export. Financial assistance @ 25% of the project cost with maximum limit of Rs.40.00 lakhs, 20 lakhs and 1.5 lakhs in the form of credit linked back ended subsidy is being provided to the compost, bio-fertilizers and vermiculture hatcheries production units respectively set up by NGOs/Private Entrepreneurs/Cooperatives.