

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5129
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2010
AREA UNDER ORGANIC FARMING
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the area of cultivation under organic farming has increased steadily over the years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to increase the area under organic farming;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the assistance/benefits provided to the farmers engaged in organic farming including subsidy on organic fertilisers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

- (a): Yes, Madam.
- (b): A statement indicating State-wise area registered for organic farming certification during last three years is given at Annexure.
- (c) to (e): The Government is implementing a National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) for production, promotion and market development of organic farming in the country. Government is also implementing National Horticulture Mission (NHM) under which promotion of organic farming has been included as one of the components.
- (f): The farmers engaged in organic farming are provided assistance under the following schemes:-
 - (i) Under the National Project on Organic Farming, farmers engaged in organic farming are benefited through training, demonstration and awareness programmes. To increase availability of organic manure, financial assistance up to 25% of project cost up to a maximum of Rs.1.50 lakh per unit is provided as credit linked back ended subsidy for establishment of vermiculture hatcheries.
 - (ii) Under National Horticulture Mission, financial assistance @ Rs.10,000/- per hectare for a maximum area of 4 hectare per beneficiary for organic cultivation of horticultural crops is provided. Assistance is also provided for setting up of vermicompost units @50% of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs.30,000/- per beneficiary. Besides, assistance is provided for organic farming certification @ Rs.5.00 lakh for a group of farmers covering an area of 50 hectares.
 - (iii) Under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY), financial assistance is available for organic and bio-fertilizers.
 - (iv) Under National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility, assistance is provided for promotion of organic manures @Rs.500/- per hectare.