

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5507  
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2010  
ECO-ORGANIC CERTIFICATION  
Shanavas Shri M. I.

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details regarding criteria for the entitlement of international eco-organic certification;
- (b) whether any company was found violating the international eco-organic rules to continue trade and has been black listed for violation of norms so far;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being initiated by the Government to preserve the character of the eco-organic nature of commerce and issue guidelines to streamline Indian production with international standards?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

- (a) The pre-conditions for organic certification (Production/Processing/Trading) for export requires compliance with the provisions laid down in the National Standards for Organic Production (NSOP) notified vide Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) Notification No.19 (RE-2001)/1997-2002 dt. 11.06.2001 under the FTDR Act. The assessment of preconditions is done by the accredited certification bodies (CBs) under National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP).
- (b & c) The companies (exporters) allegedly found violating the NPOP guidelines are i) Ragen Agro Products Pvt. Ltd., ii) Suminter India Organic Pvt. Ltd. and iii) Geo Fresh Organic. Action is initiated against all such cases of alleged violation as per NPOP guidelines. However, so far no company has been blacklisted.
- (d) The Government through Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has taken the following steps to promote export of organic products:
  - (i) Accreditation of 20 Certification Agencies after following indepth evaluation of their policy and procedure and conformity assessment procedures.
  - (ii) The surveillance of the procedure and documentation of certification agencies is being done by evaluating them annually.
  - (iii) Capacity building programmes of organic stakeholders including Creation of new Certification Bodies and organising training programmes for stakeholders.
  - (iv) Developing NPOP guidelines after taking into account the international standards such as Codex and International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) and keeping the Indian requirements in mind.
  - (v) Development and implementation of traceability (through a web-based software called 'Tracenet' launched on 15th May 2010) for enhancing the credibility of the organic certification system.
  - (vi) Participation in International exhibitions and seminars for organic products for promotion of 'India Organic' certification mark.
  - (vii) Organizing seminars, exhibitions and buyer-seller meets.
  - (viii) By initiating new standards for Organic Animal Husbandry and Poultry, Organic Aquaculture and Organic Textiles.