

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:162
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012
DEMAND OF ORGANIC FOODS
Mahato Shri Narahari;Roy Shri Nripendra Nath

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the demand for organic food items had increased in the country during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the status of the existing demand, supply, consumption and products of the organic food produced in the country;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans and projection for the coming years in respect of improved variety of food products; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Demand for Organic Food items is on the rise during the last few years. Ministry of Agriculture does not maintain data on demand, supply and consumption of various organic food items. However, according to Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), production of certified organic agri-products for the last 3 years is as under:

2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
(Million tonnes)	(Million tonnes)	(Million tonnes)

1.62	1.70	3.88
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(c) & (d): Government is providing incentives to cultivators of organic food products under the 'National Horticulture Mission' (NHM) @ Rs 10,000/- per ha for maximum area of 4 ha per beneficiary, setting up of vermi-compost units @50% of the cost, subject to a maximum of Rs 30,000/- per beneficiary and organic farming certification @ Rs. 5.00 lakh for a group of farmers covering an area of 50 ha.