

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:325
ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012
ORGANIC FOOD
Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the area under organic farming along with the volume and value of organic cash and food crops grown in the country during each of the last three years;
- (b) the countries which are leading in the production of organic crops and India's position in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has taken adequate steps to promote organic food in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 325 DUE FOR REPLY ON 4TH SEPTEMBER, 2012.

(a): The cultivable land under organic certification including wild collection area stands at 4.5 million hectare, 4.4 million hectare and 5.5 million hectare during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively. Volume of production, exports and value of exports of organic food crops including cash crops, medicinal plants, cotton and wild collection are as under:

| Year | Production (in million tons) | Export Quantity (tons) | Value (Rs. in crore) of export |
|------|------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
|------|------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|

| | | | |
|---------|-------|--------|---------|
| 2009-10 | 1.70 | 58408 | 525.50 |
| 2010-11 | 3.88 | 69837 | 699.00 |
| 2011-12 | 0.69# | 147800 | 1866.33 |

Source: APEDA

#Provisional (as per new method of monitoring through web based Tracenet System)

(b): According to the data provided by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), countries with largest area under organic cultivation are Australia – 12 million hectare, Argentina – 4.4 million hectare and United States – 1.95 million hectare. India with 1.18 million hectare under certified organic cultivation is at the 7th position.

(c) & (d): Government is providing the following incentives under "National Horticulture Mission" (NHM) for promotion of organic farming:

- (i) For adoption of organic farming, @Rs.10,000/- per hectare for maximum area of 4 hectare per beneficiary,
- (ii) For setting up of vermi-compost units, incentives @ 50% of the cost, subject to a maximum of Rs.30,000/- per beneficiary,
- (iii) For organic farming certification, incentives @ Rs.5.00 lakh for a group of farmers covering an area of 50 hectare.

In addition, to ensure increased availability of compost and biofertilizers, financial assistance is provided for setting up of mechanized compost plants from vegetables and fruit wastes and bio-fertilizer production units and capacity building programmes on organic farming are being organized under National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF).

APEDA is providing various services such as certification, notification of standards, assistance for promotion of exports of organic products etc., under, National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP).

Under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), States are free to provide assistance for promotion of organic farming.