

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:458
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013
ORGANIC FARMING
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to promote organic farming in various parts of the country including Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has launched any campaign to increase awareness about organic farming;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has earmarked Rs. 2500 crore for development of organic farming in the country during the 11th Five Year Plan; and
- (f) if so, the details of the investment made and utilised so far, in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) to (d) Government is promoting organic farming in various parts of the country including Bihar through various schemes like National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF), National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY). Government is already supporting financial assistance under National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for setting up of rmi-compost units @ 50% of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs.30,000/- per beneficiary. Funds are also provided @ 50% of the cost subject to maximum of Rs.10,000/- per hectare for a maximum area of 4 hectare per beneficiary for adoption of organic farming. Similar norms of assistance are applicable for assistance given under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY). Under NPOF scheme, financial assistance is provided for setting up of organic inputs production units as credit linked back-ended subsidy to the tune of 33% restricted to Rs. 60.00 lakh for setting up of Fruit/Vegetable market Waste/Agro-waste compost units and 25% restricted to Rs 40.00 lakh for setting up of Biofertilisers production units/Biopesticides production units. Beside this, a farmers' group centric low-cost certification system,"Participatory Guarantee System (PGS-India)"an alternative of 3rd party certification system has been launched during 2011-12 to increase the area under organic farming.

(e) & (f) There is no fund earmarked component-wise. Although fund is released to States as per their requirement in Annual Work Plan. However, the fund has been released under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) State-wise for promotion of organic farming during Xlth Five Year Plan is annexed.