

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:206

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013

ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER NPOF

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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) is under implementation for the promotion of ecological/organic farming practices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the activities undertaken and the funds allocated and utilised thereunder during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the major achievements made under the NPOF in the country during the said period;and
- (d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to evolve sustainable ecological farming practices/ standards in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY 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. 206 DUE FOR REPLY ON 12TH MARCH, 2013.

(a) to (d) Yes, Madam. National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) is being implemented for the promotion of organic farming. The activities under NPOF include technical capacity building, awareness creation and publicity, quality control, including revision of standards and testing protocols of biofertilizers and organic fertilisers, promotion of production of organic and biological sources of nutrients like bio-fertilizers, bio-pesticides, bio-control agents, organic manure, compost, etc.

NPOF scheme provides financial assistance through capital investment subsidy for agro-waste compost production units, bio-fertilizers/bio-pesticides production units, development and implementation of quality control regime, human resource development, etc. Assistance upto 25% and 33% of financial outlay upto a ceiling of Rs.40 lakhs and 60 lakhs respectively is provided as back ended subsidy for establishment of bio pesticides/bio fertilizers production units and agro waste compost production units respectively.

Details of funds allocated and released for promotion of organic farming during past three years and current year are given at Annexure-I.

During the years 2009-10 to 2012-13 (upto Feb. 13) major achievements made under the NPOF scheme are at Annexure-II.

In addition, Government is promoting organic farming through National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY), National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility (NPMSHF), Network Project on Organic Farming under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and various schemes of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).

National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) provide financial assistance for adoption of organic farming @ Rs.10,000/- per hectare for maximum area of 4 hectare per beneficiary, for setting up of vermi-compost units @ 50% of the cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 30,000/- per beneficiary, and for organic farming certification @ Rs.5.00 lakh for a group of farmers covering an area of 50 hectares.

Assistance for decentralized production and marketing of organic fertilizers is also available under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) for projects formulated and approved by the State Level Sanctioning Committee.

Under National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility (NPMSHF), assistance is provided @ Rs.500 per ha for promoting use of Integrated Nutrient Management-Organic Manures.

ICAR is implementing a Network Project on Organic Farming to develop package of practices of different crops under organic farming in different agro-climatic regions of the country. ICAR also imparts training and organizes front line demonstrations to educate

farmers on various aspects of organic farming.

Sustainable ecological farming practices are promoted through a system of certification of organic produce based on standards prescribed under National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP) being implemented by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and Agricultural Grading and Marking Rules, 2009 being implemented by Directorate of Marketing & Inspection.