

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3130

ANSWERED ON:11.02.2014

ORGANIC FARMING

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to develop the cultivation of different crops as well as pulses under organic farming to improve soil health degenerated due to indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers and insecticides;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the area under organic farming and the estimated production and value of organic cash and food crops grown in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the Government provides financial assistance for promotion of organic farming under the National Horticulture Mission in the country;
- (d) if so, the details of financial assistance provided during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government on suggested ways and means by some Non-Governmental Organisations to improve soil health and organic farming in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a) & (b): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under Network Project on Organic Farming is developing package of practices of different crops and cropping systems under Organic Farming in different agro-ecological regions of the country. The project is running in 13 co-operating centres including State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) spread over 12 States. Organic farming package of practices for 14 crops namely basmati rice, rainfed wheat, maize, redgram, chickpea, soybean, groundnut, mustard, Isabgol, black pepper, ginger, tomato, cabbage and cauliflower have been developed. State wise area and production of certified organic products (including forest produce) during last 3 years and current year is given at Annexure 1A & 1B.

(c) & (d): Under National Horticulture Mission (NHM), subsidy is provided for adoption of organic farming @ 50% of the maximum permissible cost of Rs. 20,000/ha for a maximum area of 4 ha per beneficiary. The programme is linked with organic certification. Subsidy under organic certification is project based, which is Rs.5.00 lakh for a cluster of 50 ha. For setting up of vermi-compost units, assistance is provided @ 50% of cost of Rs.60,000/unit. Details of financial assistance provided during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise is given at Annexure-II

(e): Funding to NGOs for promotion of organic farming has been discontinued since 2010.