

Statement

Components related to seed covered under Government of India (GOI) Schemes

- i. Seed Production Subsidy (MMA, NFSM, ISOPOM, Technology Mission on Cotton, Technology Mission on Jute and Mesta, Seed Division Scheme)
- ii. Seed Distribution Subsidy (MMA, NFSM, ISOPOM, Seed Division Scheme)
- iii. Seed Treatment (MMA, Technology Mission on Cotton, Plant Protection)
- iv. Support to Research (NFSM, Seed Division Scheme, ISOPOM)
- v. Agricultural Infrastructure (Seed Processing and Seed Storage godowns). (Seed Division Scheme).
- vi. Strengthening of State Seed Certification Agencies. (Seed Division Scheme).
- vii. Strengthening of Quality Control viz. Strengthening of Seed Testing Laboratories/State Seed Certification Agencies. (Seed Division Scheme).
 - a. Grow-out Test farm.
 - b. Establishment of Hi-tech DNA Testing Laboratory.
 - c. Facilities for Hybridity/GM Crop Testing and Installation of Facilities for Conducting DNA Finger Print Test.
- viii. Financial Assistance to obtain Membership of ISTA/OECD and Boosting Seed Export. (Seed Division Scheme).
- ix. Seed Village with components of Seed Storage Bin and Training. (Seed Division Scheme).
- x. Transport Subsidy for Movement of Seeds to the North Eastern and Other Hill Areas (all certified seeds excluding Potato) (Seed Division Scheme).
- xi. Biotechnology in Agriculture viz. Upgradation of Laboratory to Test BT Gene. (Seed Division Scheme).
- xii. Establishment/Strengthening of Tissue Culture Laboratory. (Seed Division Scheme).
- xiii. Establishment and Maintenance of Seed Bank. (Seed Division Scheme).
- xiv. Assistance to Private Sector to Produce Seed. (Seed Division Scheme).

Consumption of organic food

†733.SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the organic food items are hygienic as there are no residues of pesticides and chemical fertilizers in these items;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the efforts being made by Government to increase the consumption of organic food items;
and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As organic crops are grown without the use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers, these are likely to be free from pesticide and fertilizer residues contamination.

(c) and (d) Under the National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) launched during 2004-05, financial assistance, is *inter-alia* provided for creating awareness through international/national/regional seminars/exhibitions and publicity through print and electronic media to increase production and consumption of organic food. To ensure quality of organic produce, the 'National Programme on Organic Production' was launched in 2002. Assistance for promotion of organic farming is provided as a component of the National Horticulture Mission.

Norms for price fixation of drugs

734. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of drugs in various categories currently under the Drugs Price Control Order, 1995;

(b) the extent of revision allowed, if any, in life saving drugs prices during the last five years indicating reasons therefor in respective instances;

(c) whether 'Levofloxacin' falls in life saving drug category;

(d) whether Government has been seized of wide variations in price of 'Levofloxacin', of different manufacturers;

(e) if so, whether the rationale behind such variations, particularly with a view to protecting the consumers, have been ascertained or not; and

(f) the norms prescribed, if any, for manufacturers in fixation of prices of scheduled and non-scheduled drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) There are 74 bulk drugs included in the first schedule of the Drug Price Control Order, 1995. NPPA/Government fixes/revises prices of these scheduled drugs and the formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs as per the provisions of DPCO, 1995. Life saving drugs are not defined under DPCO 1995. In respect of scheduled formulations, the prices are revised / fixed as per the provisions of DPCO 1995.

(c) to (e) As stated above life saving drugs are not defined under DPCO 1995. Levofloxacin is a non-scheduled bulk drug and is not covered under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995. In