

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Organic farming**

776. SHRI N. BALAGANGA:

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the area under organic farming has increased in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details of area under organic farming along with the estimated production and value of organic cash and food crops grown in the country during last three years, year-wise;
- (c) whether Government has taken steps to promote organic food in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The area under organic farming has increased in the country. The data related to the area under Organic Certification for the past three years available with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is given as below:

Year	Area (Million Hectares) Cultivated & wild area	Production (Million MT)
2009-10	4.55	1.70
2010-11	4.43	3.88
2011-12	5.55	0.69

Source: Data Provided by Certification Bodies under NOPF in Tracenet.

Further, data on agriculture export which includes food crops, cotton and processed products for past three years available with APEDA is as below:

Year of Production	Volume in MT	Value (Rs. in Crores)
2009-10	58408	526
2010-11	69837	699
2011-12	115417	839

(c) and (d) Government is providing incentives to cultivators of organic food products under the "National Horticulture Mission" (NHM) @ Rs. 10,000/- per hectare for maximum area of 4 hectare per beneficiary, setting up of vermi-compost units @ 50% of the cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 30,000/- per beneficiary and organic farming certification @ Rs. 5.00 lakh for group of farmers covering an area of 50 hectare. Assistance for organic food promotion is also available under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) for projects formulated and approved by the State Level Sanctioning Committee.

Annual income on farmers

777. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study to ascertain the average annual income of farmers working in agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when such study would be conducted;

(d) whether the income of farmers at annual growth rate in the country has marginally increased since 2000; and

(e) if so, what has been the annual rate of increase during the decade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) At the request of Ministry of Agriculture, the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducted a comprehensive 'Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers' during 2003 in the rural areas collecting information, *inter-alia*, on receipts and expenses relating to cultivation, farming of animals, non-farm business and wages. The average monthly income per farmer household at all India level during the year 2002-03 was Rs. 2115.

(d) and (e) The next 'Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers' is scheduled for 2013.

Modernization of production of vegetables

778. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: