118	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]	Unstarred Questions
States/UTs			Cultivable/Agricultural Land
Maharashtra			21129
Manipur			316
Meghalaya			1056
Mizoram			408
Nagaland			694
Odisha			6743
Punjab			4286
Rajasthan			25548
Sikkim			98
Tamil Nadu			8126
Tripura			277
Uttarakhand			1547
Uttar Pradesh			19075
West Bengal			5673
Andaman and Nicobar Islands			28
Chandigarh			2
Dadra and Nagar Haveli			24
Daman and Diu			3
Delhi			53
Lakshadweep			2
Puducherry			30
All India		181950	

Transition from conventional farming to organic farming

 $2257.\ DR.\ CHANDAN\ MITRA:$ Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total cultivable area under organic farming at present;
- (b) whether Government has chalked out any plan for transition from conventional farming to organic farming to match the rising demand of food production, if so, the details thereof; and

the fresh steps taken by Government to enthuse the conventional farmers to adopt low carbon agricultural practices that help in reducing tillage and other machinery based production activities and achieve high agricultural yields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The details of total cultivable area under organic forming as per (APEDA) is given in the Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) Government is promoting organic farming across the country under various Schemes viz. National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Network Project on Organic Farming under ICAR etc. to encourage the farmers of the country to adopt organic farming.

The initiatives taken by the Government are as under:

(A) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)-

- The Annual Action Plan of 29 States and Union Territory has been approved with Total out lay for ₹ 511.00 crore to develop 7186 clusters out which ₹ 226.00 crore has been released to the States during the year 2015-16. Providing the sum of ₹80,000 per cluster to undertake mobilization of farmers through exposure visits and training.
- Conversion practices: transition from current practices to organic farming, which includes procurement of organic inputs, organic seeds and traditional organic input production units and biological nitrogen harvest planting etc.
- Integrated manure management procurement of Liquid Bio-fertilizer consortia/Bio-pesticides, Neem cake, Phosphate Rich Organic Manure and Vermicompost.
- Custom hiring centre charges: to hire agricultural implements as per (SMAM) guidelines.
- (B) **Training:** National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF), Ghaziabad organizes 30 days certificate course on organic farming for skill development in organic agriculture sector for youth. It also conducts 10 days Refresher Course for analysts under Fertilizer control order (FCO); 5 Days Trainers Training and 2 Days training for field functionaries and extension staff of the State Government.

NCOF has also been organizing farmers' training and field demonstration programmes (FTFD) on organic farming since 2015-16 in various villages adopted by the Hon'ble Members of Parliament under "Sasnsad Aadarsh Gram Yojana" (SAGY), through its Regional Centres of Organic Farming (RCOFs). It has completed 300 no. of FTFD in 2015-16 and has scheduled 297 no. in the year 2016-17.

The ICAR also imparts training, organizes Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) to educate farmers on all these aspect.

(C) Research on Organic Farming Technology: ICAR through its Plan Scheme "National Project on Organic Farming" (NPOF) is undertaking research to develop location specific organic farming package of practices for crops and cropping systems. Presently, the project is being implemented in 20 centres covering 16 States. Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), ICAR has been working on development of organic farming technologies for arid zone.

Statement

Details of State-wise farm area (excluding forest area)
under Organic Certification 2015-16

Sl. No. Name of State		Farm Area (organic +in conversion) in Ha
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18251.586
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4185.260
3.	Assam	28433.244
4.	Bihar	91.700
5.	Chhattisgarh	10584.939
6.	New Delhi	23.030
7.	Goa	16957.593
8.	Gujarat	76813.064
9.	Haryana	4869.048
10.	Himachal Pradesh	12759.125
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	25515.010
12.	Jharkhand	30363.733

Written Answers to		[13 May, 2016]	Unstarred Questions	121
1	2		3	
13.	Karnataka		93963.340	
14.	Kerala		25899.395	
15.	Lakshadweep		895.521	
16.	Madhya Pradesh		461774.726	
17.	Maharashtra		198352.289	
18.	Manipur		251.400	
19.	Meghalaya		4609.422	
20.	Mizoram		213.800	
21.	Nagaland		6186.934	
22.	Odisha		95896.981	
23.	Puducherry		2.835	
24.	Punjab		961.203	
25.	Rajasthan		155020.273	
26.	Sikkim		75851.211	
27.	Tamil Nadu		14456.500	
28.	Tripura		203.560	
29.	Uttar Pradesh		61081.828	
3 0.	Uttarakhand		37221.387	
31.	West Bengal		17890.412	
	Total		1489935.936	
			Or 14.89 Hectare	

Source: APEDA-TRACENET

Setting up of National Grasslands Authority

2258. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up a National Grasslands Authority;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, along with its aims and objectives; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to tackle the problem of fodder shortage due to shrinking grazing grounds and grassland cover in the country, especially in drought affected States?