

Framing of policy for organic products

*262. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to frame a policy with regard to organic products with specific safety standards, traceability norms, soil certification guidelines, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the agencies in India at present that certify organic products for export and for domestic market; and

(d) what was the quantum of export of certified organic products from India, in the last year and whether uniform norms for certification would boost farm exports, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has notified the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) under the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulations) Act, 1992, to facilitate export of organic products.

Currently there are no mandatory domestic standards for organic production. However, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has formulated the Organic Agricultural Produce Grading and Marking Rules, 2009 under the Agricultural Produce (Grading & Marking) Act, 1937. The standards prescribed under these Rules are based on NPOP and are voluntary in nature.

The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare operates "Participatory Guarantee System-India (PGS-India)" through National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF), Ghaziabad. The PGS-INDIA organic certification is free of cost to the farmers, which is being promoted under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana Scheme under components of National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture.

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, has formulated following standards for organic products:

- (i) IS 16550 (Part 1): 2016 Organic Production System and Labelling of Organically Produced Products Part 1 Crop Based

- (ii) IS 16550 (Part 2): 2016 Organic Production System and Labelling of Organically Produced Products Part 2 Animal Based (finalized and under publication)

Section 22 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, which is administered by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, has the provision to regulate manufacture, distribution, sale and import of organic foods, which have been defined as food products that have been produced in accordance with the specified organic production standards. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is in the process of framing regulations for manufacture, distribution, sale and import of organic foods in consultation with the concerned Ministries/ Departments and organisations.

- (c) The list of 25 certification bodies, accredited under NPOP for certification of organic products for exports, is given in Statement (*See below*).

PGS-India, instead of relying on third party certification, operates by networking the local groups under common umbrella through various facilitating agencies, Regional Councils and Zonal Councils.

- (d) The total volume of exports of organic products under NPOP during 2015-16 was 2.64 lakh MT valued at USD 298 million.

Uniform norms, both for export of organic products and domestic markets, will facilitate equivalence arrangements with various importing countries such as Korea, Taiwan, Canada and Japan, which would help increase export of organic products.

Statement

List of 25 certification bodies, accredited under NPOP for certification of organic products for exports

Sl. No.	Name of the Certification Agency
1.	Bureau Veritas Certification India (BVCI) Pvt. Ltd.
2.	ECOCERT India Pvt. Ltd.
3.	IMO Control Pvt. Ltd.
4.	Indian Organic Certification Agency (INDOCERT)
5.	Lacon Quality Certification Pvt. Ltd.
6.	One Cert Asia Agri Certification (P) Ltd.

Sl. No.	Name of the Certification Agency
7.	SGS India Pvt. Ltd.
8.	Control Union Certifications
9.	Uttarakhand State Organic Certification Agency (USOCA)
10.	APOF Organic Certification Agency (AOCA)
11.	Rajasthan Organic Certification Agency (ROCA)
12.	Vedic Organic Certification Agency
13.	ISCOP (Indian Society for Certification of Organic Products)
14.	Food Cert India Pvt. Ltd
15.	Aditi Organic Certifications Pvt. Ltd
16.	Chhattisgarh Certification Society, India (CGCERT)
17.	Tamil Nadu Organic Certification Department (TNOCD)
18.	Intertek India Pvt. Ltd.
19.	Madhya Pradesh State Organic Certification Agency
20.	Odisha State Organic Certification Agency (OSOCA)
21.	Natural Organic Certification Agro Pvt. Ltd.
22.	Fair Cert Certification Services Pvt. Ltd.
23.	Gujarat Organic Products Certification Agency (GOPCA)
24.	Uttar Pradesh State Organic Certification Agency
25.	Karnataka State Organic Certification Agency

Personnel in Delhi Police

*263. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the total number of Police personnel in Delhi Police; and
- (b) how many of these personnel are on traffic duty in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) As on 15.07.2016, total number of police personnel available in Delhi Police is 76461.

- (b) As on 15.07.2016, 5590 personnel are on traffic duty in Delhi Police.