

Decontrol of sugar sector

578. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the farmers' body has pitched for decontrol of the sugar sector; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Central Government has already decontrolled the sugar sector in April, 2013 by removing the levy obligation on sugar mills and doing away with the regulated release mechanism of open market sale of sugar.

Organic farming

579. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided recently to give a boost to organic farming by implementing various schemes;
- (b) if so, the details of the schemes to be introduced;
- (c) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research has initiated methodologies in organic farming; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which these are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Realizing the potential and benefits of organic farming particularly in areas like hilly, tribal and also in rainfed areas where utilization of chemical fertilizers and pesticides is relatively lower, the Government of India is promoting organic farming in country through the dedicated Schemes of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA).

Under PKVY Scheme, the assistance is provided to the farmers for cluster formation, mobilization of farmers, PGS certification and quality control, residue analysis of samples in NABL, conversion of land to organic farming, establishment