

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

of production units (Pachagavya)/Beejamruth/Jeevamruth), green manuring/biological nitrogen harvest planting, botanical abstracts production units, liquid bio-fertilizers (Nitrogen/Fixing/Phosphate Solubilizing/Potassium mobilizing bio-fertilizers), liquid biopesticides (Trichoderma Viridae, Pseudomonas, Fluorescens, Matarhizium, Beaviourie Bassiana, Pacelomyces, Verticillium), Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM), establishment of vermi-compost unit, supply of improved agricultural implements, transportation of organic products, packing, labeling and branding of organic products etc. Under this scheme, an area of 2 lakh ha will be covered under organic farming from 2015-16 to 2017-18. The organic certification is provided under PGS certification. The pattern of assistance is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

Under MOVCDNER Central Sector Scheme, the assistance is provided for cluster development, on/off farm input production, supply of seeds/planting materials, setting up of functional infrastructure, establishment of integrated processing unit, refrigerated transportation, pre-cooling/cold stores chamber, branding labeling and packaging, hiring of space, hand holdings, organic certification through third party, mobilization of farmers/processors etc. Under this scheme, an area of 0.50 lakh ha. will be covered under organic farming in North Eastern Region of the country during next three years. The pattern of assistance is given in the Statement-II (*See below*). The detail guidelines are uploaded on the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation website www.agricoop.nic.

(c) and (d) Indian Council of Agricultural Research is promoting organic Farming in the country, through Plan Scheme “Network Project on Organic Farming” (NPOF) and 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. Organic farming package of practices for 42 crops/cropping systems have been developed to provide technical backstopping to Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) Scheme being implemented in the country.

ICAR has recently established National Organic Farming Research Institute (NOFRI) at Tadong, Gangtok (Sikkim). Further, a Network Project on Organic Farming of Horticulture Crops is also started by ICAR with lead centre at ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research, Calicut from 2014. The ICAR also imparts training to educate farmers on organic farming practices.

Statement-I*PKVY Guidelines*

Name of Component	Assistance
A. Cluster Approach	
Cluster Formation	One cluster 50 acres (20 ha.) contiguous area. Assistance eligibility to farmer maximum one ha. @ ₹ 20,000/- acre (₹ 50,000/- per ha.) Total ₹ 10.00 lakhs for three years. ₹ 4.95 lakh for mobilization and PGS certification. Total ₹ 14.95 lakh per cluster.
Meetings and Discussions of Farmers	@ ₹ 200/- per farmer (₹ 10,000/- for 3 years).
Exposure visit for Farmer	@ ₹ 200/- per farmer (₹ 10,000/- for 3 years).
Training of Cluster member (3 Trainings)	@ ₹ 20,000/- per training (Total ₹ 60,000 for one cluster for 3 years).
TOTAL	₹ 80,000/-
B. PGS Certification and Quality Control	
Training on PGS Certification (2 days)	@ ₹ 200/- per Lead Resourceful Person (LRP) Total ₹ 400/- for 3 years.
Training of Trainers (LRP) (3 days)	@ ₹ 250/- day (Total ₹ 750/- for 3 years).
Online Registration of Farmer	@ ₹ 100/- per member (Total ₹ 10,000/- for 2 years).
Soil Sample Collection and Testing (21 Samples/year/cluster)	@ ₹ 190/- per sample (Total = 21X190 = ₹ 3990/- per year). (Total ₹ 11970/- for 3 years).
Process Documentation—inputs used, Organic Manures and Fertilizer used etc. for PGS Certification	@ ₹ 100/- per member (Total ₹ 5000/- per year) (Total ₹ 15000/- for 3 years).
Inspection of Cluster Member Fields (3 inspections)	@ ₹ 400/- per inspection (Total ₹ 1200/- per year and ₹ 3600/- for 3 years).
Residue Analysis of Samples in NABL (8 Samples/year/cluster)	@ ₹ 10,000/- per sample (Total ₹ 80,000/- per year). (Total ₹ 160,000/- for 2 years).
Certification Charges	@ ₹ 2000/- for 3 years.

Name of Component	Assistance
Administrative expenses for certification	@ ₹ 59950/- (Salary and maintenance)- for 3 years
TOTAL	₹ 2,63,670/-

C. Adoption of Organic Village

Conversion of Land to Organic	@ ₹ 1000/- per acre (Total ₹ 50,000/- per year) (Total ₹ 1,50,000/- for 3 years)
Organic Seed/nursery Raising, Procurement	@ ₹ 500/- per acre/(Total ₹ 25000/- per year (Total ₹ 75000/- for 3 years).
Production Units <i>i.e.</i> Pachagavya/ Beejamruth/Jeevamruth etc.	@ ₹ 1500/- per unit/acre (Total ₹ 75000/- for one cluster for 3 years).
Green Manuring/Biological Nitrogen Harvest Planting.	@ ₹ 2000/- per acre (Total ₹ 1.00 lakh for 3 years).
Botanical Extracts Production Units	@ ₹ 1000/- per unit/acre (Total ₹ 50,000/- for 3 years).
TOTAL	₹ 4,50,000/-

D. Integrated Manure Management

Liquid Bio-fertilizers	@ ₹ 500/- per acre (Total ₹ 25000)- for one cluster for 3 years.
Liquid Bi-pesticides	@ ₹ 500/- per acre (Total ₹ 25000/- for one cluster for 3 years.
Natural Pest Control Mechanism	@ ₹ 500/- per acre (Total ₹ 25000/- for one cluster for 3 years.
Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM)	@ ₹ 1000/- per acre (Total ₹ 50,000/- for one cluster for 3 years.
Vermi-compost (Size 7'X3X1')	@ ₹ 5000/- per unit, 50 unit for one cluster (Total ₹ 2,50,000/- for one cluster for 3 years).
TOTAL	₹ 3,75,000/-

E. Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) Charges

Agriculture Implements	@ ₹ 15,000/- per year (Total ₹ 45,000/- for 3 years)
Walk in Tunnels for Horticulture Crops	As per MIDH Guidelines.

Name of Component	Assistance
Cattle Shed/Poultry/Piggery for Animal compost	As per Gokhul guidelines.
TOTAL	₹ 45000/-
F. Packing, Labelling and Branding	
Packing Material with PGS Logo+Hologram	@ ₹ 2500/- per acre (Total ₹ 1,25,000/- for 3 years).
Transportation of Organic Products (Four Wheeler 1.5 Ton Capacity)	@ ₹ 1,20,000/- total for one cluster.
Organic Fairs	@ ₹ 36330/- per cluster total for 3 years.
TOTAL	₹ 281,330/-
GRAND TOTAL	₹ 14,95,000/-

Statement-II*MOVCDNER guidelines*

Sl. No.	Components	Rate (₹)
A.1.1.	Clusters development and formation of Farmer producer Companies, as per SFAC norms.	4075/- per farmer.
A.1.2	Assistance for on-farm input production infrastructure (@ ₹ 3750/ha.) and off-farm inputs (@ ₹ 3750/ha.)	7500/ha x 2 =15000/ha.
A.1.3	Assistance for quality seed and planting material (50% of maximum ₹ 35000/ha limited to the actual cost as per crop)	17500 per ha.
A.2 Support for extension services, input facilitation, training handholding and certification		
A.2.1	Assistance for setting up of input delivery, distribution and argil-machinery custom hiring centre through State lead agencies	10 lakh/FPO
A.2.2	Support and extension services for training, handholding and certification at production stage	
A.2.2.1	Training, hand holding, documentation and certification of crop production through service providers (As per MIDH)	10,000/- per ha
B. Value Chain processing (for FPC and Private Entrepreneur through Bank credit linked)		
B1. Value Chain Post harvest—Setting up of collection, aggregation, grading facilities		

Sl. No.	Components	Rate (₹)
B.1.1	Setting up of functional infrastructure for collection, aggregation and grading units @ ₹ 15 lakh (75% subsidy) (175 No. total)	11.25 lakh
B2. Setting up of value addition and processing units including packaging, storage and transportation		
B.2.1	Financial assistance for setting up of integrated processing units With TFO of ₹ 800 lakh or more limited to 75% to FPCs and 50% to private as credit linked back ended subsidy	600.00 lakh/unit (10 No. total)
B.3 Value Chain packaging, storage and transportation		
B.3.1	Integrated pack house 75% subsidy to FPCs on TFO of ₹ 50 lakh or more and 50% to private limited to ₹ 37.50 lakh	37.50 lakh/unit (20 No. total)
B.3.2	Transportation/4 wheeler up to TFO of ₹ 12 lakh (50%)	6.00 lakh/FPC. (25 No. total)
B.3.3.1	Refrigerated transport vehicle up to TFO of ₹ 25 lakh (75% subsidy to FPC and 50% to private)	18.75 lakh/unit (16 No. total)
B.3.3.2	Pre-cooling/cold stores/ripening chambers. FPOs	18.75 lakh/unit (16 No. total)
C. Value Chain Marketing—Branding, labelling, certification, quality control, retail outlets, awareness and publicity through lead agencies		
C.1	Branding, labelling, packaging, publicity and certification of processing units etc.	₹ 1100 lakh L.S. total
C.2	Seminars/conferences, workshops, Buyer-seller meets, Auction meetings, festivals.	₹ 400 lakh L.S. total
C.3	Consumer awareness Information dissemination through publicity, printed literature films and local advertisements	₹ 400 lakh L.S. total
C.4	Hiring of space in prime markets	₹ 600 lakh L.S. total
D. Value Chain Support Agencies		
D1. Setting up of Lead agency/Organic Commodity Board/ Organic Mission for scheme implementation and market facilitation. To be set up at State level		
D.1.1	Staff, Manpower, Travel and contingencies, Institutional strengthening and hire/purchase of machinery and equipments	5% of total scheme budget

Sl. No.	Components	Rate (₹)
D.1.2	Setting up of organic certification bodies. One time assistance will be provided for hiring consultants for preparation of operating manuals, training and exposure of manpower and facilitating institutional set up. Cost of manpower to be borne by the State	₹ 500 lakh L.S. total

Study visit on agricultural activities

580. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of the University of Wisconsin of USA visited Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University in Hyderabad to study the aspects of agriculture related activities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Dr. Rami A. Reddy, Coordinator and Professor of Agribusiness Programme, University of Wisconsin, Platteville, Wisconsin, USA and Mr. Steve Vale, President of Ag. Council from USA visited the Acharya N.G. Ranga University, Hyderabad on 12th October 2015, and again on 2nd January, 2016 along with a group of students from Agri-business Division, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Wisconsin, USA as a part of the course of study entitled "Agriculture and food market in India" to explore the possibility of collaboration between the two Universities for students as well as faculty exchange programme and collaborative activities.

Sale of unsafe and spurious aluminium foils

581. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has laid down parameters for the manufacturing of aluminium foils for wrapping food items and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that unsafe and spurious aluminium foils are being sold openly in Delhi;

(c) the number of aluminium foil samples lifted by Government for checking during the last two years and how many of them have been found impure and unfit for wrapping food items; and