

**Implementation of NPOP**

2418. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has implemented the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP), if so, the objectives of NPOP;

(b) whether Government has prescribed standards for organic production, if so, the standards prescribed for production of pulses;

(c) in which part(s) of the country organic pulses are produced;

(d) the quantum of organic pulses produced in the country during the last three years; and

(e) whether there is any procedure to check genuineness of organic pulses, if so, the details thereof along with the details of laboratories where organic pulses can be tested?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Ministry of Commerce has implemented the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) since 2001. The objectives of NPOP are as under:—

- (1) To provide the means of evaluation of certification programme for organic agriculture and products (including wild harvest, aquaculture, livestock products) as per the approved criteria.
- (2) To accredit certification programmes of Certification Bodies seeking accreditation.
- (3) To facilitate certification of organic products in conformity with the prescribed standards.
- (4) To facilitate certification of organic products in conformity with the importing countries organic standards as per equivalence agreement between the two countries or as per importing country requirements.
- (5) To encourage the development of organic farming and organic processing.

(b) The standards of Organic Crop Production have been described in Appendix 1 of Chapter 3 of NPOP document. The production standards include crop production plan, conversion requirement, nutrient management, disease management etc. for agricultural crops. There are no separate prescribed production standards for pulses.

(c) The organic pulses certified under NPOP are being cultivated in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh/Telangana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, H.P, Odisha and Punjab.

(d) The certified production of organic pulses under NPOP, including in conversion, for the last three years is as under:—

Year	Production in MT
2013-14	39444.96
2014-15	34717.45
2015-16	39248.63

Source: APEDA

(e) Any agricultural product certified as organic under NPOP has to be certified by an accredited certification body under NPOP for exports. As per the inspection and certification procedures as prescribed under chapter 4 clause 4.3 of the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) Document, the Certification Bodies accredited under NPOP conduct inspection before certifying the operators as organic. After inspection and compliance to the requirement by the certified operators, certification decision is taken by the Certification Body and Scope Certificate is issued having a validity of one year.

Organic products are traded only through issuance of Transaction Certificates (TCs) wherein the product identity and traceability is maintained. The TCs are also issued only by the accredited Certification Bodies. All the handlers of the product in the supply chain are required to be in the certification system under NPOP and need to obtain TC whenever the product is traded.

As prescribed under NPOP Chapter 4, clause 4.3.1.4 under Analysis and Residue Testing, the testing is to be carried out in ISO 17025 accredited and preferably APEDA approved laboratories. The details of APEDA approved laboratories are given in Statement.

#### *Statement*

##### *Details of APEDA approved laboratories*

Sl. No.	Name of the Laboratory
1.	First Source Laboratory Solutions LLP, Hyderabad
2.	National Collateral Management Services Limited (NCML), Hyderabad

Sl. No.	Name of the Laboratory
3.	Intertek India Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad
4.	Vimta Labs Ltd., Hyderabad
5.	Accurate Laboratory, Ahmedabad
6.	SGS India Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad
7.	Testtex India Laboratories Pvt. Ltd., Rajkot
8.	International Testing Centre, Panchkula
9.	SGS India Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon
10.	TUV Sud South Asia Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon
11.	Auriga Research Limited, Bangalore
12.	Eurofins Analytical Services India Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
13.	Shriram Institute for Industrial Research, Bangalore
14.	TUV Sud South Asia Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
15.	Interfield Laboratories, Kochi
16.	Ashwamedh Engineers & Consultants, Nashik
17.	Centre for Food Testing, Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed University, Pune
18.	Envirocare Labs Pvt. Ltd., Thane
19.	Geo Chem Laboratories Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
20.	MAARC Labs Pvt. Ltd., Pune
21.	MicroChem Silliker Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
22.	National Horticultural Research & Development Foundation (NHRDF), Pesticide Residue Analysis Laboratory, Nashik
23.	Reliable Analytical Laboratories Pvt. Ltd., Thane
24.	TUV India Pvt. Ltd., Pune
25.	Choksi Laboratories Limited, Indore
26.	Arbro Pharmaceuticals Limited, New Delhi
27.	Delhi Test House, Delhi
28.	Shriram Institute for Industrial Research, Delhi
29.	Punjab Biotechnology Incubator (PBTI), SAS Nagar, Mohali

Sl. No.	Name of the Laboratory
30.	Chennai Mettlex Lab Private Limited, Chennai
31.	Mats India Private Limited, Chennai
32.	Nawal Analytical Laboratories, Hosur
33.	SGS India Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
34.	T A Labs Private Limited, Chennai
35.	SMS Labs Services Private Limited, Chennai
36.	AES Laboratories (P) Ltd., Gautam Budha Nagar
37.	DNA Testing Laboratory, Basmati Export Development Foundation (BEDF), Meerut
38.	Edward Food Research & Analysis Centre Ltd. (EFRAC), Kolkata
39.	SGS India Private Limited, Kolkata

#### Applications received under Startups

2419. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the present status of Startup policy;
- (b) the number of applications received so far and what is the category of these applications;
- (c) what are the documents required for making a proposal under Startup policy;
- (d) the number of applicants given tax exemption;
- (e) whether any proposal has been received under Startup policy in Goa; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the production targets these applicants are aiming at and the number of applicants given tax exemptions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) With the intention to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation and/Startups in the country, the Hon'ble Prime Minister launched the Startup India Action Plan on January 16, 2016 in New Delhi. The Action Plan consists of 19 action items spanning across areas such as "Simplification and