

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-523
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26/07/2024

ASSISTANCE TO SIKKIM IN ORGANIC FARMING

523. SHRI DORJEE TSHERING LEPCHA:

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

- (a) whether Government plans to project Sikkim as a model State in the country in organic farming;
- (b) whether any assistance is provided to Sikkim in sustaining the status of fully organic farming State, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether Government will assist Sikkim in adopting new innovative techniques for organic farming and reducing the cost of production to encourage organic farming in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)

(a) to (c): Sikkim has become Organic in January 2016 with the support of National Project of Organic Farming (NPOF) under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and Government of Sikkim state run scheme, namely “Sikkim Organic Mission (SOM)”. However, Government of India is projecting all 8 North Eastern (NE) States in the country for organic value chain.

Sikkim Organic Mission was launched in 2010 with a clear road map of converting the entire state into organic. The programme had several initiatives in the area of organic certification, consumer education and market development including local organic outlets.

Government of Sikkim has informed that the Production Incentive Scheme (PIS) was launched on 25th December 2020 to motivate farmers and boost production of buckwheat, turmeric, ginger, large cardamom and orange by providing incentives to growers who sale their products through registered Institutes like Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) , Sikkim State Co-operative Supply and Marketing Federation Ltd. (SIMFED) etc.

Government of India has been implementing Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) scheme since 2015-16, exclusively in the 8 North Eastern States including Sikkim, for development of certified organic production in value chain mode to link growers with consumers and to support the development of the entire value chain from inputs, seeds

and certification to the creation of facilities for certification, aggregation processing, marketing and brand building initiatives. Under MOVCDNER, an assistance of Rs. 46,500/ha for 3 years is provided for creation of FPO, support to farmers for organic inputs, quality seeds/ planting material and training, hand holding and certification. Financial assistance @ Rs 32500/ ha for 3 years is provided to farmers for off-farm /on-farm organic inputs is provided to Sikkim for sustaining the status of fully organic farming State. The detail of need based financial support provided is as under:

- Inputs through DBT: Rs. 15000/ha for 3 years
- Seed and Planting material: Rs. 17,500
- Seed stores/warehouses/ small cold store: Up to Rs. 7.5 lakhs
- Collection, aggregation, grading unit: Rs. Up to 11.25 lakhs
- Transportation / 4 wheeler up to Rs 7.50 lakh
- Primary mobile/ minimal processing unit/ pre- cooling/ cold store/ ripening chamber/ integrated pack house / refrigerated transport vehicle: Up to 37.5 lakhs
- Integrated Processing unit: Up to Rs. 600 lakh

Since 2015-16, a total assistance of Rs 134.82 crore has been provided to the state of Sikkim for promotion of organic farming for 56 FPOs covering 16,650 ha area and 35,928 farmers benefitted under MOVCDNER scheme.

Government also launched a dedicated web portal- www.Jaivikkheti.in/. online marketing platform for sale of organic products across the country.
