

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3699
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004
PROMOTION OF ORGANIC FARMING
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether a working group was constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kambalji Bhai Jadav to suggest ways for promoting organic farming and extending its financial benefits to the farmers ;
- (b) If so, the findings of the said group ;
- (c) Whether the said group recommended for setting up a National Board;
- (d) If so, by when the said Board is likely to be set up ;
- (c) Whether the Government has launched the pilot project for promoting organic farming;
- (f) If so, the details thereof; and
- (g) The state-wise measures taken for promotion of organic farming ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHUTOA)

(a) to (c) : Yes, Sir. The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has set up a Task Force on Organic Farming under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kunwarji Bhai Jadhav in May 2000. The Task Force made the following main recommendations:

(I) Setting up of a National level permanent board to oversee the promotion of organic farming in the country and to coordinate these activities with all concerned agencies.

(II) Formulation of National Standards of organic farming in harmonization with international standards.

(III) Formulation of regulatory mechanism on organic farming .

(IV) To provide financial assistance for setting up of organic input production units.

(V) Government support for market development of organic produce in domestic and export market.

(e) : A National Project on Organic Farming for the production, promotion, market development and certification of organic farming has been approved by the Government on pilot basis for implementation through National Bio-fertilizer Development Centre, Ghaziabad and its six regional centres located at Imphal, Jabalpur, Bhubaneswar, Bangalore, Nagpur & Hissar.

(f): The main components of the pilot scheme are as under :

(i) putting in place a system of certification of organic produce.

(ii) capacity building through service providers .

(iii) Support through financial assistance for commercial production units of organic inputs .

(iv) Promotion, extension and market development of organic produce .

(g) : The State Governments have been advised to take necessary steps for promoting organic farming and the guidelines for organic farming has already been circulated to them in July 2002 .