

SCHEME FOR ORGANIC CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

1. Title of the Scheme

Organic Farming Promotion and Certification Support Scheme

2. Background and Rationale

The demand for organic agricultural products is increasing worldwide due to growing awareness about health, environmental protection, and sustainable farming. Many farmers are interested in organic farming but face challenges in obtaining certification, maintaining standards, and accessing organic markets. Organic certification helps farmers gain credibility, improve product value, and access better markets. This scheme aims to support farmers in adopting organic farming practices and obtaining organic certification.

3. Vision

To promote sustainable agriculture and improve farmers' income through certified organic farming.

4. Mission

To assist farmers in adopting organic farming practices and obtaining recognized organic certification.

5. Objectives

General Objective

To promote organic farming and facilitate organic certification for farmers

Specific Objectives

- Promote environmentally friendly farming practices
- Reduce the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides
- Improve soil health and biodiversity

- Help farmers obtain organic certification
 - Increase market value of agricultural products
 - Strengthen farmer groups and cooperatives
-

6. Target Beneficiaries

- Small and marginal farmers
 - Farmer groups and cooperatives
 - Organic farming communities
 - Youth interested in agriculture
 - Rural farming households
-

7. Key Program Components

A. Awareness and Training Programs

- Training on organic farming practices
 - Awareness on organic standards and certification
 - Workshops on soil health and organic inputs
-

B. Farmer Group Formation

- Formation of organic farmer groups
 - Promotion of Internal Control Systems (ICS)
 - Collective certification support
-

C. Technical Support for Organic Farming

- Training on composting and organic fertilizers
 - Natural pest control methods
 - Crop rotation and soil conservation
-

D. Organic Certification Support

- Guidance on certification procedures
- Documentation and record keeping
- Assistance in applying for certification

Examples of certification systems:

- Participatory Guarantee System (PGS)
 - Third-party organic certification
-

E. Demonstration Farms

- Establish model organic farms
 - Demonstrate organic farming practices
 - Provide practical learning opportunities
-

F. Marketing and Value Addition

- Branding of organic products
 - Market linkage with organic buyers
 - Promotion of organic product sales
-

8. Implementation Strategy

- Step 1: Identify interested farmers
 - Step 2: Conduct training and awareness programs
 - Step 3: Form organic farmer groups
 - Step 4: Provide technical support
 - Step 5: Assist with certification process
 - Step 6: Develop market linkages
-

9. Organizational Structure

Organic Certification Program Committee includes:

- Program Coordinator
 - Agriculture experts
 - Certification advisors
 - Farmer representatives
 - Volunteers
-

10. Funding Sources

- Government organic farming schemes
- Parish or NGO support

- Farmer group contributions
 - Donor agencies
 - CSR funding
-

11. Budget

Sl. No	Activity	Estimated Cost (₹)
1	Awareness and training programs	15,000
2	Farmer group formation and meetings	10,000
3	Soil testing and farm inspections	15,000
4	Documentation and certification fees	25,000
5	Organic farming inputs support	15,000
6	Marketing and promotion of organic products	10,000
7	Monitoring and technical support	5,000
8	Administrative expenses	5,000

Total Estimated Budget: ₹1,00,000

12. Monitoring and Evaluation

Indicators include:

- Number of farmers adopting organic farming
- Area under organic cultivation
- Number of certified farmers
- Increase in income from organic products

Methods include:

- Field visits
 - Farmer reports
 - Certification records
-

13. Expected Outcomes

- Increased adoption of organic farming
 - Certified organic agricultural products
 - Improved soil health and environmental sustainability
 - Increased income for farmers
 - Stronger farmer groups and cooperatives
-

14. Sustainability Plan

- Training local organic farming leaders
 - Continuous farmer education
 - Strengthening farmer cooperatives
 - Development of organic markets
-

15. Conclusion

The Organic Certification Program will support farmers in adopting sustainable agricultural practices and obtaining certification for their products. This will improve market opportunities, increase farmers' income, and promote environmentally friendly farming methods.