

Benefits provided by NCOL to farmers of organic wheat, rice, and pulses

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National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL) has taken several initiatives to benefit organic producers of wheat, paddy, and pulses. These include:

1. Providing price premiums directly to organic farmers, ensuring better realization over conventional prices. Specifically, NCOL paid:
 - a) Rs 5 per kg premium for organic paddy,
 - b) Rs 5 per kg premium for organic tur (pigeon pea), and
 - c) Rs 2 per kg premium for organic wheat
1. Facilitating market linkages through retail channels, institutional buyers, under brand name "Bharat Organics".
2. Engaging directly with Farmer Groups (ICS), Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), Cooperatives, and Certified clusters to eliminate middlemen and ensure transparent procurement.
 - iv Training programs to enhance farmers' knowledge in organic practices, compliance, and traceability.

NCOL is actively planning to engage with organic wheat, paddy, and tur farmers on a long-term basis. As part of its long-term engagement strategy.

National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL) has initiated the following measures:

- a. Entered into long-term procurement arrangements with NPOP-certified organic FPOs, cooperatives, and PACS across major organic-producing states.
- b. Paid premium prices to farmers to ensure better income realization.
- c. Collaborating with agencies such as NCDC, NDDDB, NAFED, and others for aggregation, infrastructure support, and market promotion of organic produce.
- d. These measures are aimed at ensuring assured off take, price stability, and sustainable income for organic farmers.

This was stated by the Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah in a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha.

RK/VV/RR/PR/PS

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