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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 3381
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1/04/2022

ASSISTANCE TO FARMERS FOR ADOPTING ORGANIC FARMING

3381. SHRIRAM NATH THAKUR:

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

(a) the steps taken by Government during the last three years regarding organic farming as per crop season requirements;

(b) the assistance provided along with the schemes introduced during the last three years to encourage farmers to undertake organic farming in place of farming based on chemical fertilisers and pesticides; and

(c) whether it is a fact that fertility of barren land can be increased by switching over to organic farming?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) &(b)Government has been promoting organic farming through dedicated schemes of Paramparagat Krishi VikasYojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North East Region (MOVCDNER) since 2015-16. Both the schemes provide end to end support to organic farmers from organic production to certification and marketing including post harvest management support like processing, packaging, storage etc.

PKVY is implemented in all the States across the country to promote organic farming in cluster mode, in which, farmers are provided financial assistance of Rs 50000/ha for 3 years out of which, Rs. 31000/ ha / 3 years is provided directly to farmers through DBT for organic inputs such as seeds, bio fertilisers, bio-pesticides, organic manure, compost/vermi-compost, botanical extracts etc.

MOVCDNER is implemented in all the North Eastern States for promotion of certified organic production, in which, organic farmers are supported to develop their value chain from organic production to processing and marketing etc. through FPO formation. Under the scheme a sum of Rs. 46,575/ha for 3years are provided for creation of FPO, support to farmers for organic inputs, quality seeds/ planting material and training, hand holding and certification. Apart from that financial support is also provided as subsidy to FPOs and private entrepreneurs @ 75% and 50% respectively for setting

up of post harvest infrastructure such as integrated processing unit, integrated packhouse, cold chain component and small processing unit as per the requirement of value chain.

Government has also been implementing BhartiyaPrakritik Krishi Padhati (BPKP) as a sub scheme of Paramparagat Krishi VikasYojana (PKVY) since 2020-21 for the promotion of traditional/ natural indigenous practices by utilization of agricultural waste and animal dung. The scheme mainly emphasizes on exclusion of all synthetic chemical inputs and promotes on-farm biomass recycling with major stress on biomass mulching; use of cow dung-urine formulations and other plant-based preparations. Under BPKP, financial assistance of Rs 12200/ha for 3 years is provided for cluster formation, capacity building and continuous handholding by trained personnel, certification and residue analysis. As of now, an area of 4.09 lakh ha has been covered in 8 states.

Government has initiated Large Area Certification(LAC) progarrmme since 2020-21 to certify large traditional / default area with no pasthistory Genetically Modified Organism (GMO)or inorganic chemical usage. Under this programme, an assistance of Rs. 2700 per hectare per 3 year is provided for certification, training and residualanalysis. Until now, 22145hectare area have been certified as organic under LAC [(UT of Lakshadweep (2700 hectare area), Car Nicobar and Nan-cowry group of Islands(14,445 hectare area)and UT of Ladhak (5000 ha area)].

The details of funds released under the schemes PKVY and MOVCDNER during last three years is given asunder:

(Rs in crore)

Year	**Budget Estimate (BE)**	**Releases made (Rs. in crores)**	**Releases made (Rs. in crores)**
	PKVY scheme		**MOVCDNER scheme**
2018-19	360.00	329.46	174.78
2019-20	325.00	283.67	103.80
2020-21	500.00	381.05	137.17

(c): No study is conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research through ICAR-Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research, Modipuram (ICAR-IIFSR) on the barren land. However, the study undertaken through All India Network Programme on Organic Farming in cultivated lands indicates that soil organic carbon can be improved through organic farming.

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