GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 568 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19/12/2017

NEW FARMING PRACTICE

568. SHRI DILIP PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new farming practice has been developed in the country to increase the productivity of land and to lower the use of water and other farm inputs in cultivation of crops and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the existing problems like water scarcity, high energy usage and environmental degradation have been taken care of adequately to substantially increase crop yield; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

Yes Madam, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research through its research institutions (a) and All India Coordinated Research Projects/Network projects/Consortia Research Platforms with wide network of cooperating centres and State Agricultural Universities has developed cost effective, ecofriendly, socially acceptable scientific farming practices; namely improved cultivars/ planting materials/breeds, crop diversification, resource conservation technologies (zero tillage, laser leveling, bed planting, system of rice intensification, direct seeding of rice), integrated water management, participatory watershed management for rainfed agriculture, micro irrigation, soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management, enriched composting, vermicomposting, biofertilizers, integrated pest management, organic farming, cost effective land reclamation technologies, climate resilient agriculture, low cost energy efficient farm implements and machinery to improve productivity of land, water and other farm inputs in cultivation of crops. These scientific farming practices are being popularized through various programmes namely, National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Bringing Green Revolution to the Eastern Region of India (BGREI), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), National Mission on Agricultural Mechanization, National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), National Mission on Soil Heath Card, Prime Minister's Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY).

(b) & (c): Yes Madam, the existing problems like water scarcity, high energy usage and environmental degradation are adequately addressed. The Council recommends use of these practices in integrated farming system mode. The improved farming systems have been tested in different locations and found to increase crop and water productivity substantially over the conventional farming systems.