

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION & FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 145
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH MARCH, 2018

ZERO BUDGET NATURAL FARMING

*145. ADV. JOICE GEORGE:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to launch Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) project to promote organic farming practices in the country and if so, the details including the aims and objectives thereof;
- (b) whether ZBNF is associated with low carbon farming which is promoted internationally and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether ZBNF will lower the cost of inputs of farmers and improve the capacity to increase the farm income and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether ZBNF is climate change resilient and will protect the soil from degradation and also help in retaining soil fertility and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether any State in the country has adopted such practice and if so, the details thereof along with the production rates and farmers' satisfactory report?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण ½â"ãè

(SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 145 DUE FOR REPLY ON 6TH MARCH, 2018.**

(a) to (e): Govt. of India has been promoting organic farming under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) since 2015-16 which promotes various organic farming under sustainable agriculture like Natural Farming, Rishi Farming, Vedic Farming, Cow Farming, Homa Farming etc, also include Zero Budget Natural Farming. The State of Andhra Pradesh has been promoting Zero Based Natural Farming (ZBNF) since 2015-16 under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana and PKVY. It aims for sustainable agriculture production with eco-friendly process in tune with nature and to produce chemical free agricultural produce. It involves least use of inputs thereby decreasing the cost of production. Organic farming including ZBNF is climate change resilient to a great extent protecting soil from degradation and ensuring continued soil productivity.

The State of Andhra Pradesh has reported that around 1.63 lakh farmers are practicing ZBNF as on date. The State indicated that ZBNF is a low carbon farming method. In the crop cutting experiments (CCEs) conducted across 13 districts of Andhra Pradesh in ZBNF areas, it is observed that in 88% of CCEs, increase in yield value and reduction in cost of cultivation have together contributed to increase in net incomes to the farmers. In 10 % of the CCEs, decrease in yield value is compensated by reduction in cost thereby resulting in overall increase in the income to the farmers. Only 2 % of the CCEs have shown that decrease in yield value could not be compensated by decrease in cost.
