

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4416**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2019

**ZERO BUDGET NATURAL FARMING (ZBNF)**

4416. SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:

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

- (a) whether the Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) is being practiced in various States of the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether ZBNF is a method of farming where the cost of growing and harvesting plants is zero and farmers need not purchase fertilizers and pesticides in order to ensure the healthy growth of crops;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has made any study to assess the impact of ZBNF practices in improving soil fertility, if so, the details and outcome thereof;
- (d) the details of the total area of land being cultivated under ZBNF;
- (e) whether steps are being taken by the Government to declare Bundelkhand as Natural Farming Zone, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether any training programme is being conducted for creating awareness and to educate farmers about ZBNF and Central grant is being given to the States to promote this technique; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Bundelkhand region?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a): Government of Andhra Pradesh has been promoting ZBNF under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana and Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana through Rythu Sadhikara Samstha (RySS). The programme has reached out to 163,000 farmers in 972 villages across all the 13 districts in 2017-18. During 2018-19, it is proposed to reach 500,000 farmers, covering over all the 664 mandals of the State. Karnataka has initiated implementation of ZBNF in the 10 Agro-climatic zone on Operational Research Project (ORP) mode. Himachal Pradesh has taken up ZBNF in their State through scheme "Prakritik Kheti Khushal Kisan. Haryana has taken ZBNF in 80 acres land at Gurukul; district Kurukshetra. Kerala State has planned to take-up ZBNF in the State and is in initial stage.

(b): under ZBNF, instead of chemical fertilisers and pesticides, traditional inputs prepared from locally available material such as cow dung, cow urine, jaggery, botanical extract etc. are utilised for enrichment of soil and pest control.

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(c): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has initiated study on "Evaluation of zero budget farming practices in basmati rice-wheat system" at Modipuram (Uttar Pradesh), Ludhiana (Punjab), Pantnagar (Uttarakhand) and Kurukshetra (Haryana) from *rabi 2017*.

(d): An area of 1.08 lakh hectares is covered under ZBNF under PKVY in the state of Andhra Pradesh during the period 2015-16 to 2017-18.

(e): No, Madam. However 9500 hectares ( 485 clusters of 20 hectares each) have been taken up in Bundelkand for organic cultivation under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY).

(f) & (g): Training/ capacity building is integral part of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana and based on the request from States training is imparted to farmers. ZBNF practicing states like A.P are organizing training programme under PKVY to farmers to create awareness on Organic farming including ZBNF.

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