

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 569
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25TH JUNE, 2019

MULTILAYER FARMING

569. SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJI KUNDARIYA:

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

- (a) whether there are any success stories of multilayer farming, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government considers multilayer farming as an expounded solution for doubling of farmers' income amongst the small and marginal farmers; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): Yes. Multilayer Farming is growing compatible plants of different height in the same field at the same time. It is mostly practiced in orchards and plantation crops for maximum use of solar energy even under high planting density. Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, Calicut, Kerala with Central Plantation Crop Research Institute, Kasargod has successfully demonstrated Arecanut based cropping Systems in farmers' garden in Karnataka and Kerala during the period from 2006 to 2018. Some successful arecanut based models for different agro-climatic regions is given as under –

Region	Efficient cropping model
Maidan parts of Karnataka	Arecanut-pepper-cocoa Arecanut-banana-acid lime
Costal Karnataka and Kerala	Arecanut-pepper-cocoa-banana
North Bengal region	Arecanut-pepper-banana Arecanut-pepper-acid lime
Wynad dist. of Kerala and Uttara Kannada dist. of Karnataka	Arecanut-cardamom

The adoption of coconut based multilayer farming (coconut, pepper, nutmeg, banana, cinnamon, turmeric/ginger) is more remunerative than traditional system. Multilayer Farming Models on high value vegetable cultivation under three tier system were introduced in backward districts of Bihar by ICAR Research Complex of Eastern Region, Patna and farmers were able to grow three different vegetables on the same piece of land at a time.

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(b) & (c): Yes. Multilayer farming opens a new door to earn whole round the year as well as there is less risk of complete crop failure. It is a potential technology, as it uses natural resources properly. In addition such a system helps in better utilization of environmental factors, greater yield stability in diverse environmental condition, conservation soil and other resources. ICAR- Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research, Modipuram, Meerut is undertaking research (on-station) and technology validation through farmers' participatory research (on-farm research) on Integrated Farming Systems and Cropping Systems under AICRP-Integrated Farming Systems (AICRP-IFS) in 24 states and 1 Union Territory with the participation of 34 State Agricultural Universities, 6 ICAR institutes and 1 Central University.
