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

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 190 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20TH DECEMBER, 2022

PROMOTION OF NATURAL FARMING UNDER PKVY

+*190. SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHARANDAS MAHANT:

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to promote natural farming in the country under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY);
- (b) whether any training sessions, workshops and conferences have been organised to promote and implement the said scheme/yojana;
- (c) if so, the details of the training sessions/ workshops/conferences held in the State of Chhattisgarh during the last three years; and
- (d) the percentage of small and marginal farmers benefited by the said scheme/yojana in the country including Chhattisgarh?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

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

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 190 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 20.12.2022 REGARDING "PROMOTION OF NATURAL FARMING UNDER PKVY".

(a): Government has been promoting organic farming in the country since 2015-16 through the scheme of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY). PKVY is being implemented in all the States other-than North Eastern (NE) States, across the country. The scheme provide end to end support to farmers engaged in organic farming i.e. from production to processing, certification and marketing and post harvest management support including processing. Under PKVY, farmers of various states in the country 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 on-farm and off-farm organic inputs.

Under PKVY a total 11.85 lakh ha area has been covered benefitting 16.19 lakh farmers with total expenditure of Rs. 1758.48 crore during the period 2015-16 to 2022-23. A total 8 no. of brands namely Made in Mandla, Organic Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu Organic Product (TOP), Sahi organic, Nasik Organic & Gadchirrolia Organic Farming, Jaivik Jharkhand, from the land of Jharkhand, Aadim brand of Bhoomi Gadi FPO, Bastar Naturals, Five Rivers and Tripureshwari Fresh of organic products have been developed in various states under the scheme.

Under the Flagship Programme of Namami Gange "ARTH GANGE" Programme, 1.23 lakh ha area have been covered along the Ganga basin by developing 6181 clusters. Under PKVY 131 FPOs have been formed in 17 States/UTs under the provisions of 10,000 FPOs Scheme.

In the year 2019-2020 the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare initiated a component of natural farming under PKVY, Bharatiya Prakritik Krishi Paddhati (BPKP). Training and capacity building are integral part of the scheme. Under BPKP, financial assistance of Rs 12200/ha for 3 years is provided for cluster formation, capacity building and continuous handholding, certification and residue analysis while Rs. 2000/ha for 3 years is provided to farmer as incentives through DBT. Moreover, farmers can also avail assistance @ Rs. 8800/ha for 3 years from PKVY funds for marketing, value addition and publicity of natural farming products. So far 4.09 lakh ha area has been sanctioned to eight States under BPKP.

A Digital web portal (*naturalfarming.dac.gov.in*) has been launched for promotion of natural farming to display information about implementation framework, resources, implementation progress, farmer's registration, blog etc.

- (b) & (c): BPKP Scheme guidelines provide for manpower for handholding and capacity building through Champion Farmers & Clusters Coordinator (CCCF), Senior Level Resource Persons (SLRP), Community Resource Person (CRP), Lead Resource Person (LRP), Cluster Office Management & Data Entry Operations and capacity building, exposure visits and trainings of field functionaries are as under:
- (i) 7 days on-field practical training including exposure visit to LRPs and CRPs:

 One per year 7 days training including exposure visit to Natural farmers for LRPs & CRPs to be provided by BPKP/ZBNF experts and Champion Natural Farmers.
- (ii) Yearly Capacity building of all Resource Persons (CRP/LRP/Expert Farmers/SLRP etc.) by external resource persons:

One two days annual capacity building training for all resource persons

- (iii) Capacity Building of Clusters through Expert Natural Farming farmers/or Agriculture Graduate/SLRP:
- 20 Cluster farmers training per year in batch of 50 farmers.
- (iv) Training of the farmers by LRPs and CRPs:

5 trainings of one day duration at village level for all the farmers in a batch of 25 farmers.

BPKP under PKVY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, being implemented by the State Governments. The details of training sessions/ work-shops/ conferences held/organized by the state and the beneficiary level data are maintained at the State level only.

Though organization of training and conferences were held up during 2021-2022 due to Covid Pandemic but during 2022-2023 (till November, 2022) National Center of Organic and Natural Farming (NCONF), a sub-ordinate office of Department of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare has organized various training, demonstration and awareness programme (online & offline) on natural farming for 13055 number of beneficiaries. The details are given below:

SI.No.			Number of Beneficiaries
1.	Online/Offline awareness campaign on Organic & Natural Farming under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav organized by N/RCONFs.	60	8554
2.	One Day Farmers Training and Demonstration on Organic and Natural Farming for 50 participants	17	915
3.	Two Days Training on Organic and Natural Farming for Extension Officers/Staff (20 participants)	08	200
4.	Two Days Training on PGS for State Govt. Extension Officers/RCs/SPs/LRPs etc	06	122
5.	Trainings on Organic and Natural farming organized as Co-Organizers by NCONF in association with other Ministries/Dept./Govt. & Non Govt. Institutes/SAUs etc	03	405
6.	Online/Offline Training on PGS for extension officers/LRPs/RCs/SPs etc	04	84
7.	Online/Offline Farmers Training and Field Demonstrations on Organic and Natural farming organized by N/RCONFs	02	100
8.	Offline Awareness Program on organic and natural farming for college students	02	183
9.	Participation in Exhibitions / Seminars / Webinars / Training / Workshops / Fairs etc. to disseminate organic and natural farming practices.	36	800
10.	Awareness on Organic and Natural farming, PGS Certification and Marketing by Guest lectures / Radio talks/TV Talks etc.		-
11.	Farmers Contacted through Outreach Activities for popularization of organic and Natural farming	-	1692
	Total	195	13055

It has been informed by Chhattisgarh Government that the training activities were banned since last two year due to COVID-19 situation hence webinar on natural farming for Chhattisgarh farmers were organized through RCOF Jabalpur to promote and implement the said scheme/yojana.

5 Webinars on Natural Farming organized during 2022-2023 by RCOF Jabalpur are given below:-

S. No.	Date	Farmer
1.	23.06.2022	56
2.	01.07.2022	101
3.	07.07.2022	76
4.	14.07.2022	38
5.	22.07.2022	69
	Total	340

(d): BPKP under PKVY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme being implemented by State Governments; hence the beneficiary level data (details of small and marginal farmers) is maintained at the state level only. However, the area sanctioned in the country under the BPKP since 2020 - 21 is given below:

SI. No.	States	Area in Ha
1.	Andhra Pradesh	100000
2.	Chhattisgarh	85000
3.	Kerala	84000
4.	Himachal Pradesh	12000
5	Jharkhand	3400
6.	Odisha	24000
7.	Madhya Pradesh	99000
8.	Tamil Nadu	2000
	Total	409400
