

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3087**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023

**STATUS OF ORGANIC FARMING**

3087. SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:

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

- (a) the status of the natural farming in different States of the country and the names of the State in which the said farming is being largely practised;
- (b) whether any scientific study has been conducted to modernize the natural farming and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any provision for providing training for advanced agriculture to farmers in foreign countries and if so, the number of farmers who have been trained during the last three years, the location-wise details thereof and if not, whether the Government is likely to consider for the said training;
- (d) whether the Government has any policy to promote horticulture and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of farmers benefited under the said policy during the last five years especially in Maharashtra?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): Government is promoting natural farming since 2019-2020 through a sub-scheme namely Bharatiya Prakritik Krishi Paddhati (BPKP) under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY). Natural farming is chemical free farming based on the integrated agriculture and animal husbandry approach using livestock and local resources and relies on on-farm biomass recycling with major stress on biomass mulching, use of on-farm cow dung-urine formulations from local livestock's. So far 4.09 lakh ha area has been brought under natural farming in 8 states viz. Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh,

Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu under BPKP. The State-wise details of area under BPKP is as under.

Sl. 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
<b>Total</b>		<b>409400</b>

(b): ICAR has implemented a research scheme of All India Network Programme on Organic Farming (AINP-OF) involving 11 State Agricultural Universities, 8 ICAR institutes/centres and 1 special heritage university. Under the scheme, study on “Evaluation and Validation of Natural Farming Practices in Different Agro-Ecologies” have been initiated in 16 states in which multi-location testing of 8 major cropping systems under natural farming has been made. Need based capacity building programmes for State Extension agencies have also been organized to create awareness among the farmers.

(c) to (e): Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented during XII Plan w.e.f. 2014-15, for holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits, vegetables, root and tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew, cocoa and bamboo. All states and UTs are covered under MIDH.

Under the Human Resource Development (HRD) component of MIDH, assistance is provided for exposure visit of farmers outside India and for training / study tour of technical staff/ field functionaries outside India. Details including cost norms and pattern of assistance are given below:

S. No.	Item	Cost Norms	Pattern of Assistance
1.	Exposure visit of farmers – Outside India	Rs. 4.00 lakh / participant	Project Based. 100% of air/rail travel. Course fee cost to be funded under Mission Management.
2.	Training / study tour of technical staff/ field functionaries – Outside India	Rs. 6.00 lakh / participant	Project Based. 100% of air/rail travel. Course fee cost to be funded under Mission Management.

MIDH scheme is being implemented through States. Therefore, the details of the farmers along-with the location visited is maintained at State level only. However, during the last five years i.e. from 2018-19 to 2022-23 a total of 78,805 farmers have been benefitted in Maharashtra under MIDH scheme.

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