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

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 29* TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5^{TH} DECEMBER, 2023

ORGANIC AND NATURAL FARMING

29*. SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA:

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

- (a) the salient features of organic and natural farming;
- (b) the amount of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized so far for the said farming methods in the country including Rajasthan;
- (c) the achievements made so far in this field by the country;
- (d) the details of organic products exported during the last three years;
- (e) whether the demand for organic products has increased throughout the world and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps being taken by the Government to fulfil the increased demand?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

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

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *29 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 5^{TH} DECEMBER, 2023 REGARDING "ORGANIC AND NATURAL FARMING"

(a): Organic and Natural farming are essentially non-chemical system of farming based on diversity, farm biomass management and nutrient/resource recycling and multiple cropping.

The salient features of organic farming are the following:

- i. Dependant on organic inputs from on-farm and off-farm sources for major and micro nutrients.
- ii. Excludes synthetic inputs in farming.
- iii. Nutrient and pest management practices include use of Farm Yard Manure (FYM), composts like vermi-compost, bio fertilizers, oilcakes, mechanical traps, crop diversity, stale seedbed, bio control agents etc.

The salient features of Natural Farming (NF) are the following:

- Local resource based practice integrated with livestock and depends with on-farm inputs only.
- ii. Botanical concoctions for prophylactic pest management.
- iii. Good agronomic practices such as inter cropping and mulching.
- iv. Relies on diversification through multi-crop production systems,
- v. Provides soil cover for longer periods,
- vi. Rejuvenates natural nutrient cycles,
- vii. Uses traditional and other varieties of seeds,
- viii. Practices are based on the local ecology,
- (b): Government of India is promoting Organic Farming through the following schemes:
 - i. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) was launched in 2015-16. PKVY is being implemented in all the States across the country other-than North Eastern (NE) States.

ii. Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) was launched in 2015-16 and is being implemented in all eight states of the North Eastern Region.

Under these schemes, farmers are encouraged to adopt organic cultivation and are provided end to end support from production to value addition, certification and marketing of organic produce.

The State/UTs – wise (including Rajasthan) details of allocation, release and utilization under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) schemes for promotion of organic farming is given at **Annexure-I & II**.

Natural Farming is being promoted since 2019-20 under Bhartiya Prakritik Krishi Paddhati (BPKP), a sub scheme of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY). Keeping in view the strength of Natural Farming and the success achieved in some States, BPKP is being upscaled in Mission Mode as separate scheme as "National Mission on Natural Farming" (NMNF).

- (c): The achievements made under Organic & Natural Farming is given in **Annexure III.**
- (d): The major organic products exported from India during last three years were Cereals & Millets, Processed Food, Tea, Spices & Condiments, Dry Fruits, Sugar, Medicinal plant products, Pulses, Coffee, Oil seeds, Oil cake/meal etc. Organic products worth Rs. 17,853.04 Cr were exported in 2020-21 to 2022-23.

The details of category wise organic export of organic products under NPOP for last three years is in **Annexure-IV**.

- (e): As per the report of the world of Organic Agriculture Statistics and Emerging Trends 2023 published by FiBL & IFOAM the demand for organic products has increased throughout the world from US Dollars 21 Billion in 2001 to US Dollars 135.50 Billion in 2021.
- (f): India is bestowed with significant potential to produce all varieties of organic products due to diversity in its agro-climatic conditions. This holds promise for the organic producers to tap the market which is growing steadily in the domestic and export sector. Several initiatives have been taken by the Government to enhance export of organic products from the Country, and are given in **Annexure V**.

State-wise allocation, released & utilize under PKVY scheme since 2015-16 to 2023-24 (As on 30.11.23) (Rs in lakh)

S.		PKVY*			
No.	Name of the State	Allocation	Release	Utilize	
1	Andhra Pradesh	41093.44	32691.49	31721.49	
2	Bihar	12369.74	4470.08	2571.18	
3	Chhattisgarh	18742.62	6800.42	4662.10	
4	Gujarat	2384.21	1281.12	1084.02	
5	Goa	4503.84	504.90	435.10	
6	Haryana	886.95	104.56	25.20	
7	Jharkhand	10616.85	2682.42	1775.05	
8	Karnataka	11887.15	4996.36	4438.37	
9	Kerala	12933.24	5670.47	3451.66	
10	Madhya Pradesh	42614.68	13390.63	10650.49	
11	Maharashtra	19839.08	10435.51	9321.51	
12	Odisha	11256.87	8359.60	7645.14	
13	Punjab	5467.02	2685.05	881.26	
14	Rajasthan	45495.29	16399.26	13102.89	
15	Tamil Nadu	4867.71	3056.35	2256.19	
16	Telangana	8196.30	2369.78	1810.30	
17	Uttar Pradesh	34694.14	15868.58	9821.26	
18	West Bengal	3643.55	2537.26	894.01	
19	Himachal Pradesh	6500.88	3044.52	2865.31	
20	Uttarakhand	52427.46	40547.28	36140.63	
	UTS	32127110	10017120	20110.02	
21	Jammu &Kashmir	1963.45	356.31	162.76	
22	Lakshadweep	1604.21	227.20	0.00	
23	Ladakh	2754.43	404.85	221.85	
24	Andman & Nicobar	1159.79	163.00	130.00	
25	Daman & Diu	830.47	235.55	0.00	
26	Dadar Nagar	7549.75	1000.00	0.00	
27	Delhi	7549.75	471.45	0.00	
28	Puducherry	408.96	28.55	28.55	
29	Chandigarh	663.00	77.42	77.42	
	NE States				
1	Assam	3730.91	3012.55	2380.41	
2	Arunachal Pradesh	288.96	234.56	132.49	
3	Mizoram	515.17	469.61	439.67	
4	Manipur	438.44	163.46	107.07	
5	Nagaland	399.89	333.72	290.73	
6	Sikkim	2822.39	1848.88	1744.92	
7	Tripura	782.23	687.05	607.48	
8	Meghalaya	642.28	448.12	303.57	
	Total	384525.11	188057.91	152180.09	
		discontinued in NE S		134100.09	

S. No.		MOVCDNER*			
	Name of the State	Allocation	Release	Utilize	
1	Assam	20102.67	9556.53	8831.68	
2	Arunachal Pradesh	17316.16	14126.16	13968.59	
3	Mizoram	14555.95	9332.33	9081.73	
4	Manipur	26977.97	24290.50	23957.36	
5	Nagaland	18636.55	15497.92	14894.92	
6	Sikkim	22045.51	11851.17	11691.02	
7	Tripura	17767.83	10385.07	10213.32	
8	Meghalaya	16438.59	7005.31	6902.61	
	Total	153841.22	102044.99	99541.23	

Achievement made under organic & Natural farming

The achievements under PKVY and NMCG and BPKP components of PKVY are given below:

- 14.13 lakh ha area transformed into organic benefitting 16.19 lakh farmers.
- Area transformed organic as follows:
 - 8.13 lakh ha under PKVY
 - 1.91 lakh ha under National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)
 - 4.09 lakh ha covered in 8 States under Bhartiya Prakratik Krishi Paddhati (BPKP).
- Rs.1931.31 Crore (Rs.1880.58 Crore release to States/UTs &Rs.50.73 Crore for other Administrative expenses) released for promoting PKVY, BPKP & NMCG.
- 8 States namely Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, Jharkhand, Maharashtra,
 Punjab, Chhattisgarh and Tripura have developed their own brands for organic products.

The achievements under MOVCDNER scheme being implemented in the NER since 2015-16 are as follows:-

- 1.73 lakh ha area transformed into organic benefitting 1.89 lakh farmers
- Rs.1035.17 crore (Rs.1020.45 Crore release to States/UTs &Rs.14.72 Crore for other
 Administrative expenses) released to 8 NER States since 2015-16
- Number of FPO/FPCs created -379
- No of collection and aggregation centres -205 units
- No of Custom Hiring Centers set-up 189 units
- Processing units set-up 123 Nos
- Transportation vehicles provided to FPO/FPCs 145
- States developed their own brands 7
- Organic outlets 11 Nos

Natural Farming: The various initiatives taken by the Government on Capacity building exercise, trainings and outreach through MANAGE, NCONF& ICAR are given below:

National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE) as national level "Knowledge partner for extension" with State Agriculture Management Extension Training Institutes (SAMETIs) as state branches

• Has conducted **997** sensitization workshops for **56952**Gram Pradhans.

- Trained more than 616 Master Trainers
- Translated literature and short videos on natural farming practices in 22 regional languages
- Signed MoU with NRLM to promote adoption of NF through SHGs, Krishi and PashuSakhis
- ii. National Centre for Organic & Natural Farming(NCONF) as nodal agency for Certification, training, documentation and dissemination of best practices
 - 500 State Govt. officers trained as master trainers
 - 20,000 farmers trained through on-line and off-line courses
 - Field-level pictorial demonstration guide developed for prospective Natural Farmer.
 - More than 250 success stories on Natural Farming Compiled & Disseminated through digital & print mode.

iii. Training & Outreach by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR):

- 425 KVKs including 52 KVKs on the banks of river Ganga laid down demonstration on natural farming in their institutional farms,
- KVKs organized 4105 demonstrations on natural farming at farmers field,
- KVKs trained 37,978 farmers through 418 training programme,
- Organized 6777 awareness programme involving 6.80 lakh farmers,
- National level workshop at RVSKVV, Gwalior which was attended by 800 scientists and farmers,
- 3,60,000 farmers trained through exhibitions, goshthis, farmer to farmer connect and trainings,
- Evaluation & Validation of "Natural Farming Practices" in different Agro-Ecologies across 20 locations, covering 16 States in 8 major cropping systems,
- Initiated research on Characterization of "Natural Farming" inputs, validation of "Natural Farming" via 'Farmers' Participation'
- Finalized draft curriculum for Undergraduate course on Natural Farming.

Massive Outreach through digital approaches

- Dedicated Portal on Natural Farming with training material, instructional videos and facility for peer-to-peer learning by MANAGE and NITI Aayog
- Sensitization and training of 2.5 lakh SHG members under Livelihood Mission on Natural Farming.
- 50 Radio Programs conducted for awareness generation
- 123 "ChaupalCharcha" Programs held with 14.79 lakh viewers

• 213 "Hello Kisan" Programs conducted with 49.95 lakh viewers

10-minute Video film in 14 regional languages developed and telecasted on national network through multiple platforms, KVKs and Gram Panchayats with more than 10 crore viewership

Category	Value (in Rs. Crores)
Cereals & Millets	1,486.7
Coffee	293.62
Dry fruits	554.58
Essential oil	289.3
Flowers	55.47
Fodder	141.44
Fresh Fruits & Vegetables	82.64
Medicinal Plant Products	1,331.98
Miscellaneous	2.11
Oil Seeds	1,628.9
Oils & Oleoresins	5.54
Others	117.33
Processed Food	9,201.13
Pulses	236.77
Spices & Condiments	945.33
Sugar	405.93
Tea	1,033.68
Tuber Products	40.59
Total	17,853.04

Steps taken by the Government to increase export of organic products

i. Market Promotion, Exhibition and Buyer-Seller Meets (BSM)

- Organizing participation in Trade Fairs specifically organic trade fairs, market promotion and B2B interaction on regular basis.
- Organized virtual buyer seller meet on organic products with Malaysia, Japan and Australia
- Webinar on Organic products in association with Eol Brussels and Denmark
- Webinar cum BSM jointly organized with Consulate General of India Toronto on "Opportunities for export of organic products to Canada."
- Organized participation of exporters of organic products in Biofach India during year of 2021, 2022 and 2023.
- Organized participation of Indian exporters in Biofach Numrenberg, Germany during 2022 and 2023.

i. Sensitization Programme and Capacity Building

- Conducting outreach and sensitization programmes for Organic Stakeholders from time to time on National Progarmme for Organic Production (NPOP) in different region/States of the Country for sensitizing the stakeholders
- Training and capacity building programmes on NPOP requirements for State Government officials, exporters and stakeholders.

ii. Efforts for expansion to new markets

- For expansion of organic export to new markets, India is pursuing Mutual Recognition Agreement with potential importing countries such South Korea, Taiwan, Australia, Japan, etc.
- Efforts are also being made to initiate negotiations with EU for bilateral trade in organic products including processed food.

iii. Strengthening the Regulatory Framework & Monitoring System for Organic Products

India's exports of organic products come under the purview of the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP). The following steps have been taken / initiated to strengthen the regulatory framework for export of organic products

- The NPOP guidelines are being revised to align with major international standards such as EU Regulation keeping in view the ongoing and future Mutual Recognition Agreements etc
- Strengthening the monitoring mechanism for organic certification under NPOP
- Training and capacity building of evaluation committee members for effective audit of Certification Bodies (CBs) certifying for organic products under NPOP.
