

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4343**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2022

**NATURAL FARMING**

4343. SHRI GUMAN SINGH DAMOR:

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

- (a) whether any scientific study has been conducted to modernize natural farming and if so, the details thereof along with the name of the country where natural farming is being done the most;
- (b) whether there is any provision to provide training to the farmers in foreign countries for advanced agriculture;
- (c) if so, the number of farmers who have been provided training in this regard during the last three years along with the locations of their training;
- (d) if not, whether the Government is likely to consider on it;
- (e) whether there is any policy to promote horticulture and if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether it is necessary to provide training to the farmers with a view to promoting horticulture and if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) whether any financial assistance is provided to the farmers for floriculture and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

**(a)** Government implements Bhartiya Prakritik Krishi Paddhati for the promotion of traditional indigenous practices in Agriculture. The scheme mainly emphasizes on exclusion of all synthetic chemical inputs and promotes on-farm biomass recycling with major stress on biomass mulching; use of cow dung-urine formulations; plant-based preparations and time to time working of soil for aeration. Indian Council of Agricultural Research also operates a research scheme of All India Network Programme on Organic Farming with 20 cooperating centres covering 16 States to develop package of practices for organic production of crops in cropping and farming systems perspective. The “Fukuoka” method of natural farming is practiced in certain areas of Japan where it was introduced in 1975.

**(b) to (d):** Presently there is no provision to provide training to the farmers in foreign countries for advanced agriculture. Training and capacity building of farmers including in advanced farming techniques within the Country is undertaken by the Government through ICAR Research Institutes, Agriculture Universities, National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM), National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) etc.

**(e)** To promote Horticulture in the country, Government of India operates several schemes. These include; Technology Development and Transfer for Promotion of Horticulture; Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post-Harvest Management of Horticulture Crops; Open Field Cultivation for Promotion of Horticulture in NE Region, Hilly States and Scheduled areas; Protected Cover/ Cultivation, Post-Harvest Management, Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/ Expansion/ Modernization of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Products. Besides, Indian Council of Agricultural Research through its 23 Horticulture Research Institutes develops varieties and technologies for different horticultural crops and promotes Horticulture in the Country.

**(f)** For popularization of identified new technologies/ tools/ techniques for commercialization and adoption the trainings of farmers are necessary. National Horticulture Board (NHB) organises structured training on crop specific production, Post-Harvest Management, processing and marketing for the farmers with the help of ICAR Institutes, State Agriculture Universities, KVKs /ATMA and any other professional institutions.

**(g)** The Government of India through National Horticulture Board (NHB), operates a scheme on floriculture titled "Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post-Harvest Management of Horticulture Crops." During last three-year 2018-2019 to 2020-2021, following assistance was provided by NHB under this scheme.

Year	No. of Projects	Area Covered (Acres)	Assistance provided (Rs. In Crores)
2018-19	153	210.35	45.23
2019-20	47	77.21	15.94
2020-21	53	71.14	17.23

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