

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5429
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5th APRIL, 2022

CONCLAVE ON NATURAL FARMING

5429: SHRI Y.S. AVINASH REDDY:

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

- (a) the steps being taken to hold conclave on natural farming till date;
- (b) whether the Government has urged farmers to replace the chemical fertilizers and pesticides that spurred the Green Revolution with concoctions made with the dung and urine of indigenous cows , advocating a “completely science -based “ shift from chemistry labs to nature’s laboratory and if so, the details thereof/response received , if any ; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that small and marginal farmers, who owned less than two acres and made up 80% of the country’s farming population, stood to benefit the most from natural farming techniques as they were currently forced to spend large sums on expensive fertilizers and if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to resolve such issues?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Natural farming is a traditional indigenous livestock based agricultural practices which gives freedom to farmers from all kinds of externally purchased inputs like chemical fertilizer or pesticides as well as organic fertilizers like vemicompost, organic manure, biofertiliser, bio-pesticides hence reduce the cost of farming and thereby provide benefit mostly to small and marginal farmers. Transition of natural farming requires large scale

access to natural farming techniques as farmers shift from traditional fertilizer and pesticide based system to a system where no inorganic chemical is added to the farm.

Government is implementing Bhartiya Prakritik Krishi Padhati (BPKP) introduced during 2020-21 as a sub scheme of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) for the promotion of agro-ecological farming system which have many variants and is based on sound ecological principles and traditional indigenous practices including Natural Farming. The scheme is generic in nature and gives freedom to farmers to adopt indigenous practices with emphasis on exclusion of all synthetic chemical inputs and also promotes on-farm biomass recycling with major stress on biomass mulching, use of cow dung-urine formulations and other plant-based preparations. Training through capacity building is integral part of the scheme. Under BPKP, financial assistance of Rs 12200/ha for 3 years is provided for cluster formation, training capacity building, organising conferences and continuous handholding by trained personnel, certification and residue analysis. An area of 4.09 lakh ha area has been covered under natural farming and a total fund of Rs. 4980.99 lakh has been released to 8 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Apart from this an additional area of 5.68 lakh ha has been approved for 3 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan & Uttar Pradesh. The State –wise details of funds released, crops covered and area under BPKP is given at **Annexure – I**.

Annexure- I

The State –wise details of funds released and area covered and crops under Bhartiya Prakritik Krishi Padhthi (BPKP)

Sl. No	States	Released date	Area in Ha	Amount released (Rs in lakh)	Crops under natural farming
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30.09.20	100000	750.00	Maize, Groundnut Cashew, Citrus, Palmoil, Tomato, Cotton, Paddy
2.	Chhattisgarh	09.12.20	85000	1352.52	Rice,Wheat, Pulses
3.	Kerala	30.09.20	84000	1336.60	Paddy, Banana, Leafy Vegetables, Cucurbits, Solanaceous varieties, Bhindi, Cool Season Vegetables, Spices and Condiments., Tubers Coconut based inter crops garden like fruit plans, cocoa, nutmeg, coffee, Cashew, Pepper, Coconut, Arecanut
4.	Himachal Pradesh	24.12.20	12000	286.42	Wheat, Maize, Peas, Apple, Stone fruits, Pulses, paddy, coriander and other leafy vegetables
5	Jharkhand	02.12.20	3400	54.10	Paddy, Wheat, vegetables , pulses, oilseeds
6.	Odisha	02.02.21	24000	381.89	Rice, Turmeric, Ginger and Pulses
7.	Madhya Pradesh	16.02.21	99000	787.64	Wheat, Rice, Pulses, Soyabean,
8.	Tamil Nadu	16.02.21	2000	31.82	Vegetable crops
Total			409400	4980.99	
