

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2458
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 06TH AUGUST, 2024

ORGANIC FARMING AND ZERO BUDGET NATURAL FARMING

2458. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:

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

- (a) the data regarding the adoption and success of organic farming and zero budget natural farming initiatives across the country; and
- (b) the incentives and support being provided to farmers transitioning from conventional to organic farming methods?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): A total cumulative area covered under organic farming in the country is 59.74 lakh ha [National Programme on Organic Production - 44.75 lakh ha + Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana -14.99 lakh ha (including 2.15 lakh ha area under Bharatiya Prakritik Krishi Paddhati)] and 48.30 lakh Farmers [National Programme on Organic Production – 23.58 lakh + Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana – 24.72 lakh (including 5.34 lakh under Bharatiya Prakritik Krishi Paddhati)] have been mobilized in the country.

Government is promoting organic farming on priority in the country since 2015-16 for improving soil health and water retention through the schemes of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana in all the States other-than North Eastern States and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region. Both the schemes stresses on end-to-end support to farmers engaged in organic farming i.e. from production to processing, certification & marketing and post-harvest management training and Capacity Building and also focus on sustainable agriculture.

Government is also promoting natural farming since 2019-2020 through Bharatiya Prakritik Krishi Paddhati programme of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana scheme. 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 and other plant based preparations including zero budget natural farming. So far 2.15 lakh ha area has been covered and 5.34 lakh farmers have been mbilized.

(b): Under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana scheme, a total assistance of Rs. 31,500 per ha for a period of three years is provided for promotion of organic farming to cover different components like Training & Capacity Building, Data Management, PGS Certification, value addition, marketing and publicity. Out of this, the assistance of Rs. 15,000 per ha for a period of three years is provided to farmers through Direct Bank Transfer (DBT) for on- farm /off –farm organic inputs for transitioning from conventional to organic farming method.

Whereas under Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region, a total assistance of Rs. 46,500/ha for 3 years is provided for creation of FPO, support to farmers for organic inputs, quality seeds/ planting material and training, hand holding and certification. Out of this, assistance @ Rs. 32500/ ha for 3 years is provided to farmers for off -farm /on –farm organic inputs under the scheme including Rs. 15,000 as DBT to the farmers and Rs. 17,500 for the planting material to be given to the farmers by State Lead Agency (State Lead Agency) in kind.

Under Bharatiya Prakritik Krishi Paddhati, natural farming is being promoted in cluster of 500 ha and Rs. 12200.00 is provided per ha for three years, in which Rs. 2000 is provided as incentives to farmers through DBT.
