

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2393
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10th DECEMBER, 2024

PROMOTING THE USE OF HYDROPONICS AND AEROPONICS

2393. Shri Vijayakumar Alias Vijay Vasanth:

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

- (a) whether the Government plans to promote and support the use of hydroponics and aeroponics in agriculture in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the manner in which the Government intend to address the challenges of water scarcity in agriculture through innovative methods like hydroponics;
- (c) the details of initiatives taken/ will be taken to create awareness and educate/ encourage farmers to adopt sustainable and efficient alternatives to traditional farming methods, such as hydroponics and aeroponics;
- (d) the details on any funding or subsidies allocated for research and development of hydroponics and aeroponics in agriculture;
- (e) the manner in which the Government ensure that hydroponically grown produce meets quality and safety standards for domestic consumption and export; and
- (f) whether any plans exist to establish large-scale hydroponic farms in the country, similar to the project in Indiana, US?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): Hydroponic and Aeroponics are technologies to cultivate crops in soilless media. The technologies are successful where the quality of soil is poor and there is nematode infestation.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)- Institutes and Universities are engaged in development and standardization of technologies for Hydroponics and Aeroponics for different regions of the country. ICAR- Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR), Bangalore, ICAR- Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI), Shimla and ICAR- Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture (CISH), Lucknow are providing trainings and demonstrations to interested stakeholders to create awareness among farmers for adoption of Hydroponic & Aeroponics. Agriculture/ Horticulture Universities are also educating farmers about the benefits of these technologies in water scarce areas of the country.

(d): Various ICAR-Research Institutes and State Agriculture Universities are engaged in research and development of Hydroponics and Aeroponics as per their mandate within existing budgetary allocations.

(e): At present, existing standards of Agmark, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) are applicable.

(f): No such proposal is under consideration of Government at this stage.
