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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3765TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH AUGUST, 2025

NATURAL FARMING IN TIRUPATI

3765. SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY:

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

- (a) the funds allocated and released to Andhra Pradesh and specifically to Tirupati district for the promotion of natural farming during the last and current financial year;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that the yield in natural farming is comparatively lower than in conventional farming, especially during the transition period;
- (c) if so, whether the Government is providing any financial incentives, subsidies, or income support to farmers adopting natural farming practices to compensate for yield loss and ensure income stability;
- (d) if so, the details of such support provided; and
- (e) if not, the reasons for not providing direct incentives despite actively promoting natural farming across the country?

ANSWER

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

- (a): Rs. 94.371 lakhs have been allocated under National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) to Andhra Pradesh for 2024-25. Against the allocation, Rs. 47.185 lakhs have been released. Allocation for 2025-26 the funds allocated is Rs. 12251.46 lakhs, out of which Rs. 5810.8875 lakhs have been released. District wise fund allocation is not maintained centrally.
- (b): As per the study conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research (IIFSR) at 20 locations across 16 States on the fields of 484 farmers, there are several benefits of Natural Farming. Increase of up to 0.25% in soil organic carbon content and reduction of up to 29% in input costs of production was observed under Natural Farming conditions. Further, study conducted by ICAR National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (ICAR-NAARM) in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra shows that Natural Farming helped in improving

farmers' income by reducing cost of cultivation and attracting better product price. The benefit cost (B:C) ratio improved by 15 to 270% across 3 States. Further, Independent studies commissioned by Government of Andhra Pradesh have shown that there is no yield penalty in natural farming besides reduction in cost of cultivation and resulting in higher net incomes when compared to conventional farming.

(c) to (e): Under the Mission, there is provision for an output based incentive of ₹4000/-per acre, per year to a farmer for 2 years (upto 1 acre per farmer). The incentive support is for farmers to practice natural farming, undergo training, upkeep of livestock, preparation of natural farming inputs including purchase of mixing & storage containers or purchase of inputs from Bio-input Resource Centers etc. Further, the Scheme has been on boarded on Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Portal to provide the support to farmers adopting natural farming practices.
