

Promotion of Zero Budget Natural Farming

2748. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NITI Aayog has advocated for promotion of Zero Budget Natural Farming under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana to double the income of farmers by 2022;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the suggestion is backed by experiments conducted by Agriculture Research Institutions and practice being done by farmers or is based upon paperwork alone; and

(d) the Agriculture Research Institutions and parts of the country where farming done under the two flagship schemes of Government avoiding use of fertilizers and just 10 per cent of water, has resulted in doubling the farm production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) NITI Aayog held a meeting on 9th July, 2018 to discuss the promotion of Zero Budget Natural Farming. Government of India has been promoting organic farming in the country through the dedicated schemes of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) since 2015-16 and also through Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). In the revised guidelines of PKVY scheme during the year 2018, various organic farming models like Natural Farming, Rishi Farming, Vedic Farming, Cow Farming, Homa Farming, Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) etc. have been included wherein flexibility is given to States to adopt any model of Organic Farming including ZBNF depending on farmer's choice. Under the RKVY scheme, organic farming/natural farming project components are considered by the respective State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) according to their priority/choice.

(c) and (d) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under Network Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) and All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRP) on Integrated Farming Systems, has initiated an experiment on "Evaluation of zero budget farming practices in basmati rice-wheat system" at Modipuram (Uttar Pradesh), Ludhiana (Punjab), Pantnagar (Uttarakhand) and Kurukshetra (Haryana) from Rabi 2017 to study the zero budget farming practices on productivity, economics and soil health including soil organic carbon and soil fertility. As already mentioned, farming that has been promoted under PKVY and other schemes aims at chemical free farming. Bio-pesticides,

bio-fertilizers, onfarm/off farm natural inputs are used by farmers that results in reduction of input cost compared to inorganic cultivation which also contributes to savings.

Financial assistance for loss of crops and cattle

†2749. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial support is provided to small and marginal farmers for loss of their crops and cattle in the event of natural disaster;

(b) if so, the details of financial support payable and paid per hectare to small and marginal farmers;

(c) whether there are separate compensation packages for irrigable and non-irrigable land; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) to (d) Financial assistance is provided to small and marginal farmers in the form of input subsidy, where crop loss is 33% and above, in the event of notified natural calamities. The assistance provided is different of different categories of cultivated land. Financial assistance is also provided for the loss of cattle in the event of notified natural calamities. The details of assistance provided to small and marginal farmers for the loss of crops and cattle in the event of notified natural calamities are given in Statement.

Statement

The details of assistance provided to small and marginal farmers for the loss of crops and cattle in the event of notified natural calamities

Item	Norms of financial assistance
(i) Input subsidy (where crop loss is 33% and above)	
(a) For agriculture crops, horticulture crops and annual plantation crops	(a)(i) ₹ 6800/- per hectare in rainfed areas and restricted to sown areas.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.