

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1133
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11/02/2022

NATURAL FARMING IN ANDHRA PRADESH

1133. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is helping States for natural farming;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that almost 25 per cent of total natural farming in the country is being done in Andhra Pradesh alone;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which Government is planning to push natural farming in Andhra Pradesh in a big way;
- (d) the justification for giving just Rs 7.5 crores when Andhra Pradesh has 25 per cent of total natural farming; and
- (e) the steps being taken to provide more funds for natural farming in Andhra Pradesh?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) Government is promoting Natural Farming through Bhartiya Prakritik Krishi Padhati (BPKP) introduced during 2020-21 as a sub scheme of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) for the promotion of traditional indigenous practices including Natural Farming . The scheme mainly emphasises 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. Under BPKP, financial assistance of Rs 12200/ha for 3 years is provided for cluster formation, capacity building and continuous handholding by trained personnel, certification and residue analysis. Until now, under natural farming an area of 4.09 lakh ha area has been covered and a total fund of Rs. 4980.99 lakh has been released to 8 States across the country. The State –wise details of funds released and area under BPKP is given at **Annexure – I**.

(b) Government of Andhra Pradesh has been implementing climate resilient, AP Community managed Natural Farming (APCNF) under RKVY, PKVY and BPKP Schemes. During 2020-21 the APCNF program has been implemented in 3011 villages covering 4.78 lakh farmers in 5.06 lakh acres area under Natural Farming under RKVY, PKVY and BPKP schemes of GOI which is including 1.0 lakh ha area under natural farming under BPKP.

(c) The steps taken by Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) to promote AP Community Managed Natural Farming (APCNF) in the state are:

- GoAP has created a separate Natural Farming department at Secretariat level under A&C Department.
- GoAP mandated Rythu Sadhikara Samstha(RySS) to spearhead the implementation of Natural Farming programme in Andhra Pradesh.
- RySS has a dedicated State Project Management Unit (SPMU) at state level ,District Project Management Unit (DPMU) at district level and Community cadre at village level.
- Conducting State level TOTs, District level TOTs and Village level awareness campaigns.
- Hand holding support to farmers with the help of master farmers /Community Resource Persons (CRPs).
- Women Self Help Groups provide support for mobilization, planning, programme monitoring, input preparation at the village level and a group of villages
- Preparation of farmer wise Natural farming action plans involving women SHGs
- Video dissemination of Natural farming through Pico projectors, and Farmer friendly content and Package of practices.
- Dissemination of Natural farming activities and success stories in RBKs and provision of Natural farming inputs at RBKs.
- Support from district administration to the programme.

(d) and (e) Based on the proposal received from Govt. of A.P for 1.0 lakh ha area for Rs. 3182.40 lakh , the state has been released Rs. 7.5 Crore out of allocation of GOI share of 3182.40 lakh during 2020-21 for natural farming under BPKP . The release of balance amount is subject to pace of implementation and utilisation of fund by the state.

Annexure- I**The State –wise details of funds released and area covered under Bhartiya Prakritik Krishi Padhthi (BPKP)**

Sl. No.	States	Released date	Area in Ha	Amount released (Rs in lakh)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30.09.20	100000	750.00
2.	Chhattisgarh	09.12.20	85000	1352.52
3.	Kerala	30.09.20	84000	1336.60
4.	Himachal Pradesh	24.12.20	12000	286.42
5	Jharkhand	02.12.20	3400	54.10
6.	Odisha	02.02.21	24000	381.89
7.	Madhya Pradesh	16.02.21	99000	787.64
8.	Tamil Nadu	16.02.21	2000	31.82
Total			409400	4980.99
