

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

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2893  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20/12/2024

**SCHEME TO REDUCE DEPENDENCE ON FERTILISER**

2893. DR. SIKANDER KUMAR:

Will the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of standalone Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) that aims to shift away dependence on fertilisers and chemical inputs in a mission mode;
- (b) whether Bio-input Resource Centres (BRCs) will be setup to provide availability and accessibility to use natural farming inputs for farmers;
- (c) the details of total contribution by Central and State Governments for said project till 15th Finance Commission (2025-26); and
- (d) whether Government has taken steps to establish scientifically supported common standards and farmer friendly certification procedures for naturally grown chemical free produce in Himachal Pradesh?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): The Union Cabinet on 25th November 2024 has approved the National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) as a standalone centrally sponsored scheme with an overall outlay of ₹2481 crore (Government of India share - ₹1584 crore and States share - ₹897 crore) till the 15th Finance Commission (2025-26). The scheme aims to encourage the use of on-farm made natural farming inputs such as Jeevamrut, Beejamrut etc. Under the scheme, there is provision of 10,000 need based bio-input resource centers to provide easy access to locally produced natural farming inputs thereby reducing dependency of farmers on external markets for purchase of inputs.

(d): The State Government of Himachal Pradesh has informed that a self-certifying certification system CETARA-NF (Certified Evaluation Tool for Agricultural Resource Analysis-Natural Farming) has been developed under the Prakritik Kheti Khushaal Kisan Yojana (PK3Y). Under this system, categorisation is on the basis of farmers as:

- i. Antraal one star (farmer has just entered the natural farming system – in conversion)
- ii. Sadharan two-star (farmers practising natural farming and producing with agrochemicals but is dependent on ex-situ inputs)
- iii. Vishisht three-star (Farmers fully practising as per the production tenets of PK3Y).

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