





SUSTAINABLE FARMING IN HARMONY WITH NATURE

HIMACHAL PRADESH

Prakritik Kheti Khushal Kisan Yojana (PK3Y)

A big step towards natural farming in Himachal Pradesh

Existing cultivation systems in the hill state of Himachal Pradesh have been severely impacted over the last 3 decades by the green revolution based process techniques. Expensive use of chemical inputs led to a severe impact on the producers' livelihood besides increasing cost of cultivation and affecting the income of 90% of the rural population. Therefore, a shift in on-farm programs and production process towards a low-input and high output farming system is the only Sustainable Agricultural alternative.

Farmers like Sushma Chauhan and Ajay Rattan have taken to it wholeheartedly changing their farming methods and increasing the productivity and income. While Sushma was a graduate with an interest in horticulture and Ajay an engineer, both found the answer to their search for sustainable agriculture in PK3Y.

Sushma and Ajay are now the self proclaimed ambassadors of the scheme in their village and families.

THE INITIATIVE

The Himachal Pradesh Government launched the Prakritik Kheti Khushal Kisan Yojana (PK3Y) in 2018 to promote eco-friendly initiatives.

It is based on the use of natural farm inputs like Jeevamrit, Ghanjeevamrit etc. prepared with dung and urine of desi cow and other locally sourced inputs.

The aim is to increase their income in harmony with nature through sensitization, training and handholding of the farmers practicing natural farming.



“I can see the difference in quality of soil and plants in 5 bigha orchard with non chemical natural farming in short period.

TOTAL OUTCOME

Transforming agriculture from monoculture to diverse crops enhancing nutritional status of the farm.

PK3Y has conducted several scientific studies, which have validated the relevance and viability of the natural farming technique in Himachal Pradesh.

The farmers observed that crops grown with natural farming have better drought resistance and better taste and flavour than chemically grown crops.

The Yojana is now working on the principles of traceability, transparency and true costing for sustainable food systems in the overall interest of farmers' economy and nutritious food.

An innovative self-assessed certification by the farmers, which is easier and transparent, will help the farmers to sell their natural produce in the market with ease.