South India Natural Farming Summit (SINF), 2025

Prelims: *Current events of national and international relations | Agriculture*

Why in news?

The South India Natural Farming Summit 2025 was held from November 19 to 21, 2025, in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

> ***Natural farming -*** *A "chemical-free" farming system that only uses inputs produced using livestock and plant resources, as per the definition of Union Ministry of Agriculture.*

- **Organized by –** Tamil Nadu Natural Farming Stakeholders Forum.
- **Objective –** To promote sustainable, eco-friendly, and chemical-free agricultural practices and accelerate the shift toward natural and regenerative farming.
- **Participation –** The summit included over 50,000 participants, including farmers, scientists, organic input suppliers, and other stakeholders from various southern Indian states.

Highlights & Key Discussions of PM's address

- **PM-KISAN Instalment –** PM released the 21st instalment of the *PM Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme*, amounting to over Rs. 18,000 crore for 9 crore farmers across India.
- **Science-Backed Movement –** PM emphasized the ***goal of making natural farming a science-backed movement*** and encouraged research institutions to treat farmers' fields as living laboratories.
- **One acre, One season approach –** PM urged farmers to adopt the ***"One Acre, One Season" practice*** to test natural farming methods.
- **Role of FPOs –** The importance of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) was highlighted in creating farmer clusters, value-addition facilities, and linking farmers to online markets like e-NAM.
- **Farmer Innovation –** PM interacted with farmers showcasing value-added and GI products, such as banana waste products, various types of tea, moringa powder, and traditional paddy varieties.
- **Policy Measures –** *National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF)* launched in 2024 to promote natural farming in mission mode across the country.
    - Under NMNF, in the next 2 years, ***1 crore farmers*** across the country will be initiated and supported by ***certification & branding***.

- **Kisan Credit Card (KCC)** – Over Rs. 10 lakh crore assistance provided this year, extended to livestock and fisheries.
- **Traditional Practices –** Farmers encouraged to use Panchagavya, Jeevamrit, Beejamrit, mulching and integration of Shree Anna (millets) with natural farming for nutrition and climate resilience.
- **Agricultural Models –** Promotion of multi-crop agriculture over monoculture.
    - Examples from Kerala & Karnataka: multi-storey farming (coconut, areca nut, fruits, spices, pepper).
- **Legacy –** South India highlighted as a ***"living university of agriculture",*** with historic water management systems like temple tanks and canals.

References

1. PIB | PM addresses the South India Natural Farming Summit 2025
2. Indian Express | Inauguration of South India Natural Farming Summit 2025

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