

Q. What is zero budget farming? What are its benefits? What are the pillars of zero budget farming and what are the current initiatives by the government? (300w)

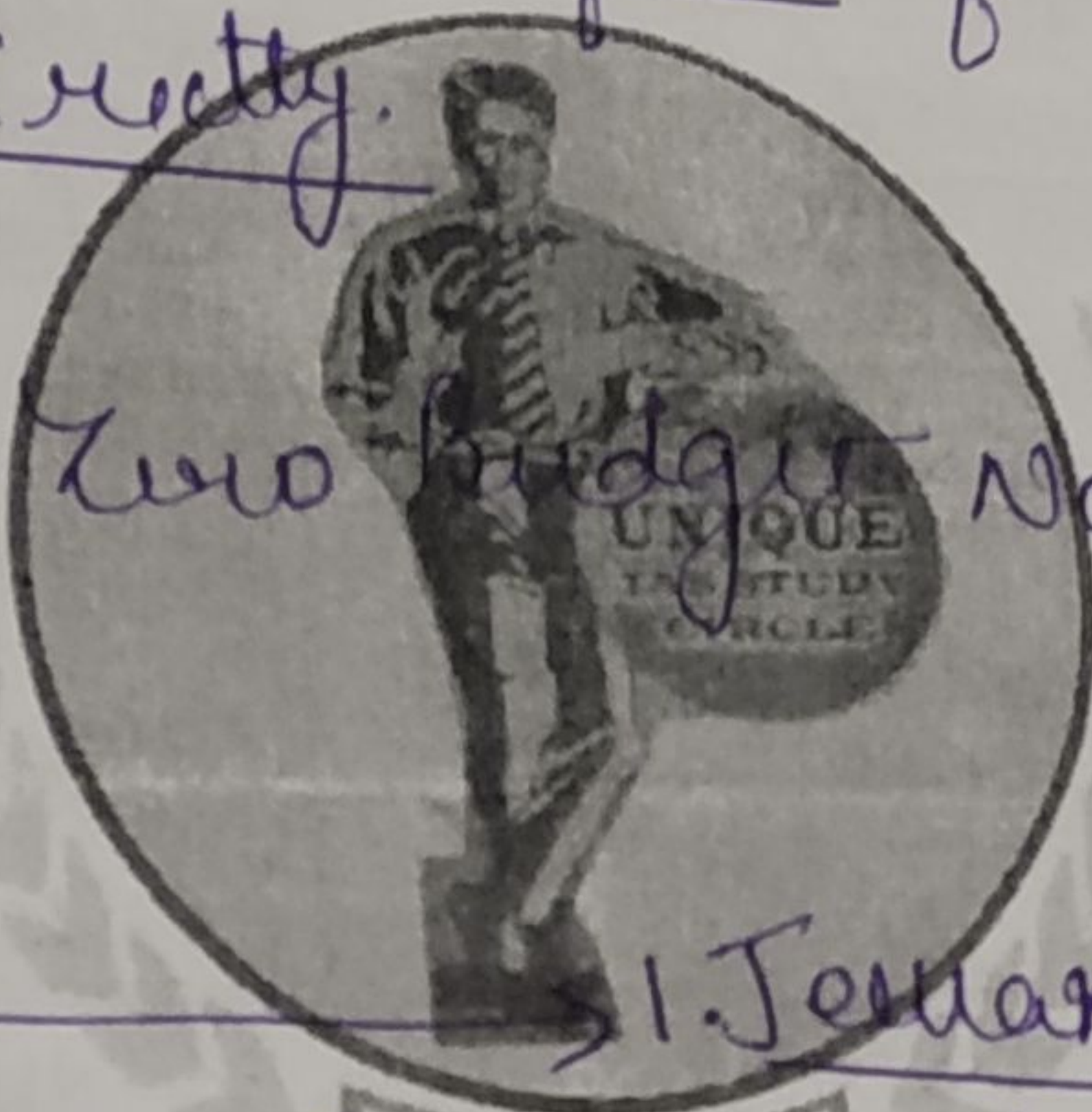
A. Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) as the name suggests is a farming technique that requires no extra cost for farming. This type of farming is not new in India. It is an age old farming technique. where farmers use almost no chemical fertilizers, pesticides. They use their farm produce like cow dung, cow urine, natural manure, etc. in order to increase fertility of the soil.

## BENEFITS

1. No extra cost.
2. No use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.
3. No harm to the soil's properties.
4. So affordable for small scale farmers.
5. Farmers do not need to learn specialized techniques as nothing

- out of their knowledge is being implemented.
6. Promotes farmers from taking big amount of loans, hence contributing to minimum indebtedness.
  7. Promotes biodiversity as farmers are determined to raise livestock for manure.
  8. Farmers are benefitted from this farming directly.

PILLARS of two budget Natural Farming.



ZBNF

1. Jeevamutham

A BHOPAL Established since 1990  
cultured microbial from cow dung, jaggery, pulses, etc.

2. Bejamutham

microbial coating of the seeds or sucklings using cow dung, cow urine, etc.

3. Acchadana

which means sowing the top layer of soil with crop residues.

4. Whapasha

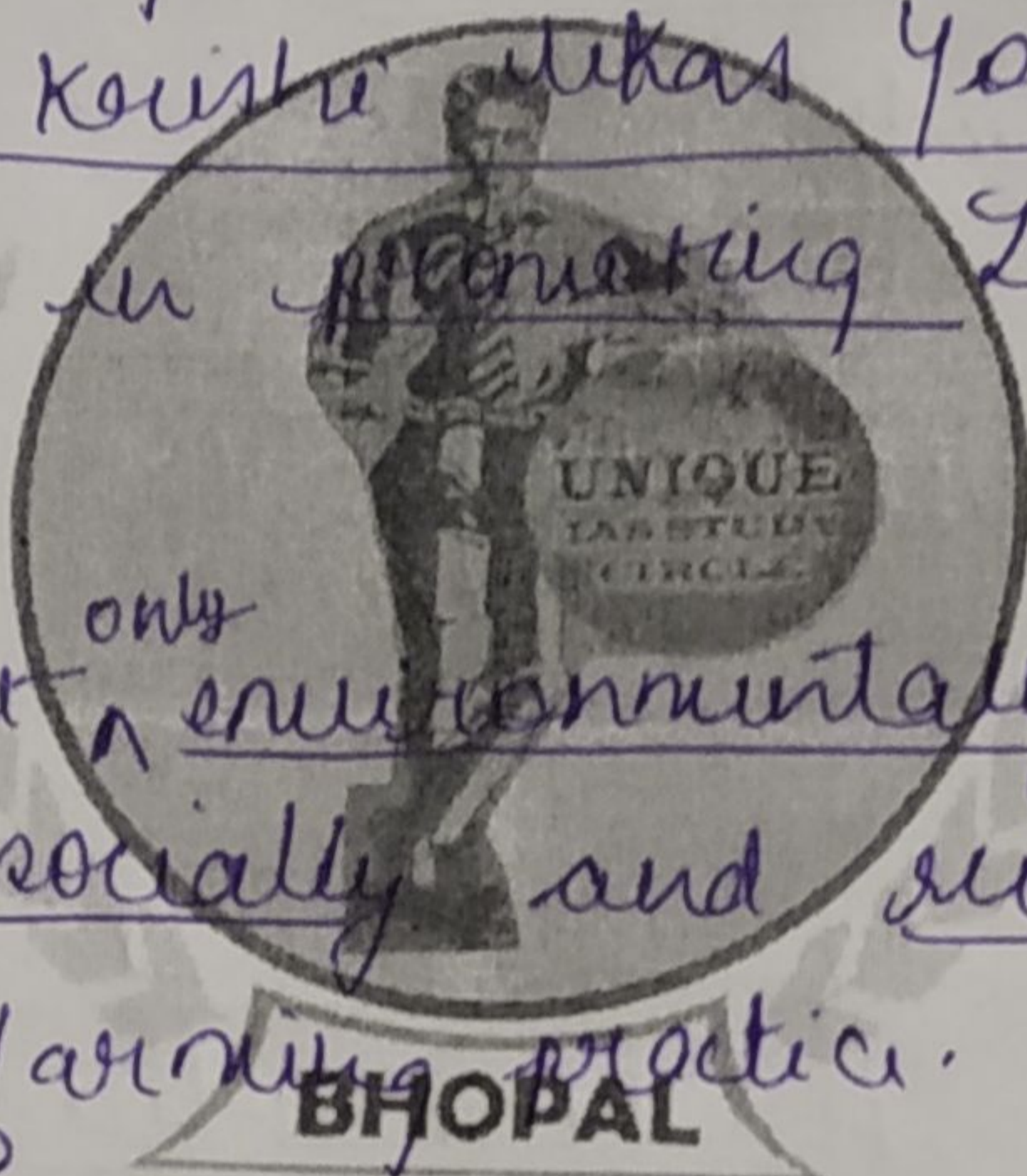
This includes aeration of soil.

INITIATIVES by government.

(a) Government has launched many schemes in order to promote ZBNF.

(b) Sarvamparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana launched in the year 2015 where government has proposed many models like row farming, weave farming, Media farming.

(c) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana which is helping in promoting ZBNF.



ZBNF is not <sup>only</sup> environmentally beneficial but is a socially and economically beneficial farming practice. It should be promoted more and more and especially among small scale farmers as it is affordable and easy to practice. ZBNF has long term benefits.

Excellent