

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO- 38
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09/12/2022

ENCOURAGEMENT TO WOMEN IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

*38. SMT MAMATA MOHANTA:

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

- (a) the details of the efforts being made by Government to encourage women in the agricultural sector to sow and harvest the crops;
- (b) the manner in which the special benefits of agricultural education are extended/being extended to women in the State of Odisha; and
- (c) the details of the efforts being made by Government to ensure that no man or woman has to quit their agriculture profession?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PART (a) TO (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 38 FOR 09.12.2022 REGARDING ENCOURAGEMENT TO WOMEN IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR.

(a) & (b): The Government is implementing various schemes and programmes for the farmers including women farmers as per eligibility and conditions existing in scheme guidelines.

The guidelines of the various beneficiary oriented schemes of the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare provide that States and other implementing agencies should incur expenditure on women farmers. These schemes include Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms, National Food Security Mission, National Mission on Oilseed & Oil Palm, National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture, Sub-Mission for Seed and Planting Material, Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture.

The Central Sector Scheme Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is being implemented by DA&FW with the aim of providing financial assistance to landholding farmer families including women farmers across the country, subject to certain exclusion criteria.

Ministry of Rural Development is implementing Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana, a sub-component of Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission with the aim to empower women by making systematic investments to enhance their participation and productivity, as also to create sustainable livelihoods of rural women. It is a demand driven programme implemented in project mode through the State Rural Livelihoods Mission as Project Implementing Agencies.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established 731 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country including Odisha mandated with Technology Assessment and Demonstration for its Application and Capacity Development. KVKs organize training programs for the benefit of farmers and farm women, rural youth and extension personnel and organize

women specific activities on various topics. In order to familiarize women with the latest techniques in agriculture and allied sectors, trainings are also being imparted to women under schemes of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

Under the Plan Scheme 'Strengthening and Development of Higher Agricultural Education in India' under implementation by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research; a total of 1549 fellowships/scholarship were awarded to girl students for higher agriculture education during last four years (2018-2022) in Odisha University of Agriculture Technology(OUAT), Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

(c): With a view to make agriculture attractive and more remunerative, Government is implementing a number of schemes which include, inter alia, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY); Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme; National Agriculture Market Scheme (e-NAM); Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY); Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan-Dhan Yojana scheme; National Food Security Mission (NFSM); Kisan Credit Card (KCC); Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture(MIDH).

Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY); Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) and Establishment of Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centers (AC&ABC) component of Sub Mission of Agriculture Extension (SMAE) support gainful self employment opportunities to rural youth. Government is also promoting integrated farming with focus on horticulture, floriculture, bee-keeping, fisheries, agro-forestry, etc. to diversify the income base of agricultural households.
