

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1460
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15/12/2023

RESEARCH CONDUCTED BY CIWA

1460. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA:

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

- (a) the number of research conducted by the Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (CIWA), Bhubaneswar on 'Gender issues in Agriculture and allied fields' in India;
- (b) the details of the outcome of every research conducted since CIWA's establishment;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any workshop for generation and dissemination of knowledge to promote gender-sensitive decision-making for enhancing efficiency and effectiveness of women in agriculture in the North-Eastern region;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the places where All India Coordinated Research Project Centres (AICRP) is working under CIWA are situated, State-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI ARJUN MUNDA)

(a)&(b): The details of research conducted by the Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (CIWA), Bhubaneswar on 'Gender issues in Agriculture and allied fields' in India along with the outcome since establishment of CIWA are attached as **Annexure I**.

(c)&(d): ICAR-Central Institute for Women in Agriculture, Bhubaneswar has conducted studies related to women in Agriculture through its All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Women in Agriculture Centres situated at Assam and Tura Meghalaya. Activities carried out by Assam Centre & Tura, Meghalaya Centre are attached as **Annexure II**.

(e): The Institute is coordinating the All India Coordinated Research Project on Women in Agriculture at 13 centers in 12 states across the country. State-wise list of places where All India Coordinated Research Project centers working under CIWA is annexed as **Annexure III**.

Details of the number of research conducted by the Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (CIWA), Bhubaneswar on ‘Gender issues in Agriculture and allied fields’ in India along with the outcome

1	Repository of information on gender in agriculture	Gender Knowledge System in Agriculture (GKS) portal has been developed based on gender disaggregated data, technologies, methodologies etc. which helps the stakeholders at national and international level.
2	Technological interventions for family nutritional security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Nutri Smart Villages" - An Innovative Programme for Strengthening Poshan Abhiyan" was launched in 75 villages across India • Developed Low Cost Weaning Mix • Significant number of Nutri-gardens were established at Odisha, Assam, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Uttarakhand states. • Gender Sensitive Integrated Vertical Nutri-Farming System (IVNFS) Model developed for Household Nutrition and Income
3	Technologies for farm women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 541 Technologies assessed and 58 found suitable for farm women • Low cost poultry feed utilizing acid treated and fermented fish silage. • Low cost Azolla based poultry feed which reduced feed cost by Rs. 2/ kg due to inclusion of 10 % dried Azolla meal . • Two women SHGs managed millet processing units established-in Odisha • Established 20 Women SHGs for Rural Poultry based Farming Systems • Popularized gender friendly IPM technologies in 10 agro-climatic zones of Odisha
4	Tools developed for Drudgery reduction of women in agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tools developed for drudgery reduction of farm women : Maize dehusker cum sheller for drudgery reduction of farm women (commercialized), Women Friendly Power Operated Groundnut Stripper Cum Decorticator, Ergonomically suitable low cost harvesting bag for easy loading and unloading while harvesting Mango, Low cost Solar Drying Rack for drying of food products for preservation, Disc type ridger, integrated floating cage aqua geponics system for small scale ponds. • Promoted Gender Friendly Farm equipment and established Custom Hiring Centres in 52 villages covering 3400 Households in Odisha. • Drudgery reducing tools disseminated to 50 SHGs through 20 KVKs

5	Women oriented income generating Agriculture Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established market linkage with Falcon Chilka Fresh (a PPP initiative of Govt of Odisha) for rural women SHG to sale the value added fish products under the brand name "Fishlikes'. • Three FPOs and one SHG have been registered to increase the income of women farmers and their Socio-economic empowerment. • Eight Gender Sensitive Models for enhancing income and nutrition security of farm families: Doubling Farmers' Income Model (Agricultural interventions at farmers field resulted in increase in income by 69% over control (Rs. 89,300/- to Rs. 1,51,200/-)); Family Poultry Model; Gender Sensitive Entrepreneurship Model developed for dairy, horticulture and farm implements sectors; Agri-Nutri (GSAN) Farming System Model; Improved Goat Rearing Model for Enhancing Income of Rural Women; Multi Agency Participatory Extension Model (MAPEM), Resource Efficient Horticulture Model for improved nutrition and income of Small holders, Gender Sensitive Integrated Vertical Nutri-Farming System (IVNFS) Model for Household Nutrition and Income"
6	Capacity Building of farm women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1042 number of capacity building programmes were organized benefitting 42,868 beneficiaries during 2015-22. • As a part of celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, 230 webinars/ physical/online Training programme/ workshops/ Interfaces etc. were organized in 13 states benefitting more than 12810 stakeholders.
7	Linkages Established with National and International Organizations	IRRI, ILRI, IIMN Foundation, OUAT, Centurian University, SOA University, Mahindra & Mahindra, PRADAN, Odisha Watershed Development Mission

Information on activities carried out by Jorhat, Assam Centre

Under AICRP-WIA, Assam Agricultural University (AAU), Jorhat Centre various activities relating to women in agriculture have been implemented through different programmes and Projects to promote gender sensitive decision-making for enhancing efficiency and effectiveness of women in agriculture in the north- eastern region.

The Assam Centre has also been implementing the project-based activities in neighbour North-Eastern states, namely Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Nagaland under Agro-Ecological region 16 and 17, respectively.

The major findings of various study conducted by this centre reflected that even if the decision-making in agriculture, family, financial and entrepreneurship activities are generally men dominated but, in north-eastern states most of the decisions were taken by men and women together (agricultural activities 74.77%, family activities 82.33%, economic activities 66.20% and entrepreneurship related decisions 65.5%). Aligning with these data, 50 numbers of trainings and awareness programmes has been conducted in this region last year.

Information on activities carried out by Tura, Meghalaya Centre

- Awareness and hands on trainings were organized for farm women. Millet Mela was organized where demonstration of millet based recipes like millet ladoo, millet cookies, millet biscuits, upma, kheer, khichdi, etc. were demonstrated.
- A Model Nutri-garden is developed in the College of Community Science, Tura campus to provide awareness and training on nutria-garden.
- In villages lemon orchard, Vermicompost, apiculture, mushroom cultivation is promoted through women groups for economic empowerment of women.
- Training on processing of local spices, fruits and vegetables were conducted as a result of which women entrepreneurs have taken up those activities as commercial ventures. Skill training on bamboo shoot based recipes was provided considering the importance of local food habit.
- One hundred and thirty three numbers of mixer grinders were provided to farm women as time saving and labour saving devices.
- Considering the public health problem of North-East, low Glycaemic Index health mixes i.e., low GI atta mix, low GI cheela mix and low GI upma mix were developed. Locally available vegetable which is available throughout the year were incorporated for better utilization.
- To address other health issues multigrain high fibre mix and nutria-dense mix were developed to tackle the problem of obesity and under nutrition. Developed technologies were disseminated to farm women.
- For economic empowerment of women from Arecanut husk which is a waste, technologies are developed such as A. Textile fiber extraction and yarn preparation from Arecanut husk agro-waste; B. Woven handloom fabric from Arecanut husk agro-waste; C. Nonwoven material from agro-waste Arecanut husk; D. Composite material from Arecanut husk agro-

waste; E. Antimicrobial finish and herbal dyeing from Areca nut extract. Farm women were trained on those technologies and their uses.

- Information was collected regarding identification of gender gap for climate change in which physiological workload of farm women in agriculture was studied in Meghalaya. It was observed that cardiac cost of work is found to be high during harvesting with the traditionally used sickle.
- Musculo-skeletal discomfort was found in various parts of the body like upper back, mid back arms and shoulders. Hence, improved and refined sickle intervention is going on, to study the suitability in order to minimize musculo-skeletal problems and to reduce cardiac cost of work. As traditional “kokcheng” (headbaskets) creates same problem the refined kokcheng was introduced on experimental basis.
- Two resource centres are established in adopted villages from where farm women are taking farm tools for their use.
- Capacity building programmes were also conducted on Irrigation and cropping system. Cattle vaccination drives Programme, method demonstration on vermicomposting, training and method demonstration on mushroom cultivation. Seasonal fruit preservation and value added products, package of practices of different vegetables also.
- During the year 2022, 29 numbers of capacity building programmes were organized where 1081 farm women have participated. In the current year 23 numbers of programmes were organized so far in which 844 participants have participated.

State-wise list of Centres of All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Women in Agriculture

S. No	State	Name of AICRP Centre and their location
1.	Haryana	Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar
2.	Punjab	Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana
3.	Uttarakhand	Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar
4.	Rajasthan	Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur
5.	Telangana	Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, Hyderabad
6.	Karnataka	University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad
7.	Karnataka	University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru
8.	Assam	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya, Palampur
10.	Maharashtra	Marathawada Agricultural University, Parbhani
11.	Meghalaya	Central Agricultural University, Tura
12.	Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Madurai
13.	Bihar	Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Samastipur
