

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-817
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 09/02/2024

PROMOTION OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR

817. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than half of the students in Central Agricultural Universities in the country are female;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to promote women entrepreneurship in agriculture;
- (c) whether it is a fact that female labour force participation rate is the highest in agricultural sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): In all the three Central Agricultural Universities, the percentage of female students in Academic Session 2022-23 is as below:

S.No.	Name of Central Agricultural University	Percentage of female students in Academic Session 2022-23
1.	Central Agricultural University, Imphal	57.89
2.	Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University (DRPCA), Pusa, Samastipur	40.69
3.	Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University (RLBCAU), Jhansi	36.11

(b): The Government has taken several steps to promote Women Entrepreneurship in agriculture. Some of these steps are as below:

- Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare implements “Innovation and Agri-Entrepreneurship Development” programme under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) from 2018-19 with an objective to promote innovation and agripreneurship by providing financial support and nurturing the incubation ecosystem in the country. Women startups/entrepreneurs also avail benefit from the programme.

- Women are trained under Agri Drone Project which is a sub-mission on Agriculture Mechanisation Scheme.
- The Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (CIWA), Bhubaneswar has identified one programme entitled "Community-based technological interventions for food, nutrition, livelihood securities and entrepreneurship development for farm women" in which projects are undertaken for livelihood securities and entrepreneurship development of farm women.
- Launched Udyam Sakhi Portal to provide information regarding the financial schemes, policies & programmes of the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) to existing and prospective women entrepreneurs.

(c & d): As per the Annual Periodic Labour Force Survey, 2022-23, agriculture has the highest female labour force participation of 64.3%.
