

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-498
ANSWERED ON- 29/11/2024

KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA

498. DR. LAXMIKANT BAJPAYEE:

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

- (a) the total number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country;
- (b) whether Government has reviewed the programme of KVKs, if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to upgrade the concept of KVKs across the country to provide better services to farmers, the details thereof, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY)

- (a): There are 731 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country.
- (b): The Government has created a strong monitoring and review mechanism for KVKs to make it a vibrant and effective institution of technology transfer at district level. Monitoring and review of KVKs is done regularly at National, Zonal, University and District level by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Agricultural Technology Application Research Institutes, Agricultural universities and Scientific Advisory Committee of each KVK, respectively.

The performance and working of KVKs is also reviewed by the Government periodically through Quinquennial Review Teams and Third Party. Last such evaluations were conducted by International Food Policy Research Institute and Indian Society of Agribusiness Professionals, New Delhi in the year 2019 and 2020, respectively. The major findings of these evaluations include KVKs' efforts generating an additional net farm income of Rs. 5752 per hectare, very high rate of return on expenditure on KVK (1: 11.78 Cost Benefit ratio), one KVK trained farmer trained disseminating technology/knowledge to 30 fellow farmers, increase in outreach, increase in proportion of farm women in training and increase in seed production and planting material.

(c): The Government has taken several steps to strengthen the KVKs so as to disseminate newer technologies to farmers in a faster and efficient manner. In the KVKs, Farm Level Demonstrations (FLDs) of new technologies, training of farmers, seed distribution etc. activities are conducted in regular manner so that the benefits of agricultural research reach the farmers in a timely and effective manner. KVKs also issue advisories to farmers with regard to weather conditions, spread of diseases, irrigation requirements etc.

In order to connect farmers directly to KVK scientists, an ICT based platform “KISAN SARATHI” has been created so that farmers can directly communicate with scientists of the KVKs of the concerned districts with regard to their problems and technology related issues. So far, 2.31 crore farmers are already registered with KISAN SARATHI from more than 3.15 lakh villages from across the country.

The Government also makes continuous efforts to upgrade the physical infrastructure of the KVKs across the country so that better services can be provided to farmers. During last year Government made Rs.7730.76 lakh budget provision for upgrading the infrastructure. State/UT wise details of budget provision for upgrading the infrastructure are given in **Annexure-I**. Infrastructure includes Administrative Building, Farmers Hostel, Staff Quarters, Demonstration Unit, Farm Development Works.

[Part (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 498 dated 29.11.2024]

State/UT wise details of budget provision for upgrading the infrastructure during 2023-24

Name of State	Budget provision for upgrading the infrastructure (Rs. in lakh)
A & N Island	4.18
Andhra Pradesh	283.49
Arunachal Pradesh	215.00
Assam	334.00
Bihar	342.64
Chhattisgarh	393.36
Goa	9.00
Gujarat	189.17
Haryana	48.79
Himachal Pradesh	64.91
Jammu & Kashmir	169.55
Jharkhand	319.36
Karnataka	505.29
Kerala	241.71
Ladakh	27.6
Lakshadweep	3.00
Madhya Pradesh	605.39
Maharashtra	629.83
Manipur	116.72
Meghalaya	244.19
Mizoram	90.00
Nagaland	146.65
Odisha	343.06
Puducherry	9.11
Punjab	119.05
Rajasthan	546.21
Sikkim	46.00
Tamil Nadu	391.59
Telangana	299.81
Tripura	23.94
Uttar Pradesh	654.51
Uttarakhand	48.89
West Bengal	264.76
Total	7730.76