### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

## RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3211 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 28/03/2025

#### USE OF AI IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

#### 3211 SHRI A. D. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Artificial Intelligence (AI) is being used in the agricultural sector with a view to boost farmers income and yields;
- (b) the various fields in which AI tools are being effectively used in the agricultural sector;
- (c) whether financial assistance is being provided to farmers for using Al tools;
- (d) whether any awareness campaign has been launched to make the farmers aware of Al tools; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **ANSWER**

# THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

- (a) to (e): The Government has employed Artificial Intelligence (AI) methods to address various challenges in the agricultural sector to aid farmers. Some of the initiatives are given below:
- i. 'Kisan e-Mitra', an AI-powered chatbot, has been developed to assist farmers with responses to queries about the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme. This solution supports multiple languages and is evolving to assist with other government programs. At present, it handles over 20,000 farmer queries daily and so far, more than 92 lakh queries have been answered.
- ii. The National Pest Surveillance System, for tackling the loss of produce due to climate change, utilizes AI and Machine Learning to detect pest infestation in crop issues, enabling timely intervention for healthier crops. This tool, currently used by over 10,000 extension workers, allows farmers to capture images of pests to help them mitigate pest attacks and reduce crop losses. At present, it currently supports 61 crops and over 400 pests with approx. 1 lakh uploaded images.
- iii. AI-based analytics using field photographs for crop health assessment and crop health monitoring using Satellite, weather & soil moisture datasets for rice and wheat crops.

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