

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 659
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25/07/2025

ESTABLISHMENT OF AGRO-CLINICS AND AGRI-BUSINESS CENTRES

659. SMT. SULATA DEO:

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

whether the Ministry will partner with the Government of Odisha to establish agro-clinics and agri-business centres in every block for youth entrepreneurship in agriculture?

ANSWER

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

The Government is implementing the Establishment of Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business programme under the Sub-Mission on Agricultural Extension (SMAE) of umbrella scheme Krishonnati Yojana, across the country, including Odisha State, to promote entrepreneurship in agriculture and create gainful self-employment opportunities to unemployed candidates with desirable educational qualifications and supplement efforts of public extension, since 2002.

The programme is open to different categories of candidates of age group of 21 to 60 years. Graduates in agriculture and allied subjects, life sciences (Botany, Zoology & Chemistry), Environmental Science and Diploma holders (3-year diploma after Higher Secondary) in agriculture and allied subjects are eligible for training under the programme. The selected candidates get 45 days free residential training from various Nodal Training Institutes across India. The scheme covers full financial support for training and handholding, facilitation for loan for establishment of agriventures and credit linked back ended composite subsidy.

In the State of Odisha, so far 643 candidates have been trained out of which 116 candidates have established their agriventures covering 45 out of 314 blocks in the State.

Department of Agriculture & Farmers Empowerment, Government of Odisha through its programme, Mukhyamantri Krushi Udyog Yojana (MKUY), has provisioned for Agro-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres as individual beneficiary centric entrepreneurship initiative through *The Agricultural Promotion and Investment Corporation of Odisha Limited (APICOL)*.
