

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3228**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20/03/2026

**PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE**

3228. SHRI I.S INBADURAI:

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

- (a) the estimated percentage of women engaged in agricultural activities across the country and whether updated gender-disaggregated data is maintained, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether specific schemes exist to support women farmers through access to credit, inputs, training and market linkages, if so, the details thereof scheme-wise and number of beneficiaries;
- (c) whether steps are being taken to recognise women cultivators as farmers for purposes of land records, institutional credit and insurance benefits, if so, the progress achieved thereof; and
- (d) whether training and capacity-building programmes have been implemented to enhance technical and entrepreneurial skills of women engaged in agriculture?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by the National Statistics Office (NSO), MoSPI, female covers 64.4 percent of the total workforce engaged in the agricultural activities during 2023-24 across the country is given at Annexure I.

(b) & (c): Under Kisan Credit Card Scheme, as per Priority Sector Lending (PSL) regulation, government has mandated that banks will provide 18% of their total loans to agriculture and allied sector. Number of female account holders who have accessed agricultural credit under the Kisan Credit Card linked Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) for affordable credit are around 22%. State wise details of such female farmers for the last three years as reported by banks on Kisan Rin Portal (KRP) is given at Annexure II.

Under Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM), subsidy is provided for (i) Storage Infrastructure, and (ii) Marketing Infrastructure other than storage, to the eligible beneficiaries include Individuals, Group of farmers/growers, Self Help Group (SHG), Cooperative Marketing Federation etc. In order to promote women farmers and entrepreneurs including women Self Help Groups (SHGs), assistance in the form of subsidy is provided to all the women beneficiaries at a higher rate i.e. @33.33% instead of 25%. Since inception of the Scheme till 31.12.2025, 11,320 Women beneficiaries have been assisted for Storage and other than Storage Infrastructure projects.

Under the Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs scheme, special provisions have been made to empower women by providing special focus to include women farmers/women Self Help Groups (SHGs) as members to make FPOs more effective and inclusive. Under 10,000 FPOs Scheme, out of 56.32 lakh shareholders, 21.96 lakh are women farmers as on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025.

Department of land resources, Ministry of Rural Development has addressed all state to introduce a column for Gender in the Record of Rights. This step will help to know the number of women land owners. As per the Agriculture Census 2015-16 conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, out of 14,64,53,741 total operational holdings, 2,04,39,148 operational holdings were held by female operational holdings. This indicates that female farmers accounted for around 13.9 percent of the total number of operational holdings in the country.

(d): Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) Scheme supports State Government's efforts and to make available latest agricultural technologies and good agricultural practices in different thematic areas of agriculture and allied sectors to farmers including women farmers through different extension activities viz; Farmers Training, Demonstrations, Exposure Visits, Kisan Mela, Mobilization of famers groups and organizing Farm Schools.

The Government is implementing Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) scheme and ICAR-Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (ICAR-CIWA) to promote adoption of new technologies of agriculture and allied sectors through technology assessment, demonstration and capacity development among the extension functionaries of state governments and farmers including farm women.

Under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) programme, as part of farm sector livelihoods strategy, have the objective to empower SHG members as Mahila Kisan through adoption of sustainable practices i.e., Agro Ecological Practices, Enhanced Livestock Management practices, scientific cultivation/collection of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) etc.

The Government through Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institutes (FMTTIs) imparting training to women farmers/Technicians/Engineers/ Unemployed youths/ Machinery manufacturers, etc. under various training programmes on latest technology of farm mechanization.

## Annexure-I

### Percentage of working female in agriculture and allied sector as per PLFS 2023-24.

State/UT	Percentage of female in agriculture sector*
Andhra Pradesh	56.50
Arunachal Pradesh	75.75
Assam	74.73
Bihar	82.06
Chhattisgarh	77.04
Delhi	0.02
Goa	12.27
Gujarat	61.13
Haryana	45.94
Himachal Pradesh	78.45
Jharkhand	76.57
Karnataka	58.38
Kerala	36.38
Madhya Pradesh	76.77
Maharashtra	59.03
Manipur	46.23
Meghalaya	58.83
Mizoram	50.60
Nagaland	60.60
Odisha	69.50
Punjab	33.97
Rajasthan	74.25
Sikkim	61.13
Tamil Nadu	38.63
Telangana	53.08
Tripura	58.62
Uttarakhand	67.98
Uttar Pradesh	81.83
West Bengal	50.76
Andaman & N. Island	39.02
Chandigarh	0.00
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	50.85
Jammu & Kashmir	77.76
Ladakh	71.75
Lakshadweep	2.64
Puducherry	13.31
<b>All India</b>	<b>64.36</b>

\*Agriculture sector - women engaged in agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries and forestry.

## Annexure-II

**Number of female farmers that have been able to access Agri Credit under KCC-MISS Scheme for the last three Scheme years.**

	<b>SY* 2022-23</b>	<b>SY* 2023-24</b>	<b>SY* 2024-25 (Provisional)</b>
<b>State wise</b>	<b>No. of female</b>	<b>No. of female</b>	<b>No. of female</b>
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	268	353	205
Andhra Pradesh	1177734	1337910	1322539
Arunachal Pradesh	1432	2032	3297
Assam	29358	31739	37226
Bihar	72184	106206	55728
Chandigarh	38	52	52
Chhattisgarh	213347	246216	246060
Delhi	148	174	148
Goa	1455	1706	1440
Gujarat	318925	366601	372606
Haryana	166495	183930	199946
Himachal Pradesh	45363	59302	70477
Jammu And Kashmir	65334	70345	67902
Jharkhand	93108	93499	97561
Karnataka	859981	960402	1052362
Kerala	801917	1117833	1091722
Ladakh	3723	3679	3887
Lakshadweep	237	402	686
Madhya Pradesh	497628	566841	450072
Maharashtra	893988	978850	736878
Manipur	3007	3372	3779
Meghalaya	8069	9909	20226
Mizoram	5507	6494	13030
Nagaland	10983	14037	14816
Odisha	406822	458607	492999
Puducherry	3843	15429	8624
Punjab	236680	279980	234746
Rajasthan	800080	950955	992899
Sikkim	643	1149	1207
Tamil Nadu	781501	1154461	1239534
Telangana	801556	1096403	1308249
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	175	161	121
Tripura	7806	6844	7418
Uttar Pradesh	543749	759622	406439
Uttarakhand	29325	35311	34424
West Bengal	252998	248169	253584
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>9135407</b>	<b>11168975</b>	<b>10842889</b>

\*SY-Scheme years.

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