

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2370
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02/01/2018

INCENTIVES TO YOUTH FOR AGRICULTURE

2370. SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDASI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that very less people particularly youths are interested in agriculture sector, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the number of agricultural universities in the country and the number of graduate/postgraduate passouts from these universities; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to motivate youths towards agriculture sector so as to provide them an alternative employment?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) No, Madam.
- (b) Presently Seventy five (75) State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) /Central Agricultural Universities (CAUs) / ICAR Deemed-to-be Universities (DUs) /Central Universities with agricultural faculty are functioning in the country.

The details of students passed out from these universities during last four years are as under:-

Programmes	2012	2013	2014	2015
UG	15902	16786	17176	17741
Master's	8814	8304	9223	6968
Doctoral	1217	1426	1670	1423
Total	25933	26516	28069	26132

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(c) The following steps have been taken to motivate youths towards agriculture sector:

- i. The course curricula in Agriculture has been redesigned to impart the desired training as per the present day needs among agricultural students.
- ii. Professional status to degrees in Agriculture and allied sciences granted.
- iii. Involvement of School students during Agricultural Education day celebrations on the 3rd of December every year throughout the country.
- iv. Implementation of one year student READY Programme in UG course with enhanced stipend @ Rs. 3000/- P.M. Experiential Learning units provided to Universities for UG students to develop high quality professional competence and help them become “job providers rather than job seekers”.
- v. A National Talent Scheme (NTS) has been introduced for PG students @ Rs. 3000/- P.M. NTS at UG level also enhanced from Rs. 1000/- P.M. to Rs. 2000/- P.M.
- vi. A Merit-Cum-Means scholarship has been introduced to attract meritorious under-graduate students below poverty line to study Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering, Home Science, Dairy & Animal Husbandry subjects. Scholarships in these subjects are awarded annually on the basis of merit-cum-means.
- vii. A Post Matric Scheme has been introduced to encourage scheduled caste and scheduled tribe students for taking up Bachelor Degree programmes in various branches of Agriculture.
- viii. A program on “Attracting and Retaining Youth in Agriculture” (ARYA) has been initiated which is being implemented in 25 States through KVKs, one district from each State.

Under ARYA project, farm youth groups are being formed and are being oriented through demonstrations, training programs and exposure visits in various entrepreneurship activities. The duration of each initiative varies depending upon nature of the enterprises undertaken. Under different enterprises in the project, 3242 youth have been oriented for the period 2016-17. The youth have been involved in the project for working with of micro-entrepreneurial units like Apiary, Mushroom, Seed Processing, Soil testing, Poultry, Dairy, Goatry, Carp-hatchery, Vermi-compost etc
