

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3972
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20TH MARCH, 2018

SCIENTIFIC CULTIVATION

3972. SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has made several announcements to promote the agriculture sector and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has provided training to farmers for scientific cultivation and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the farmers have been informed about the said training programme across the country including Karnataka and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a): To promote the agriculture sector the Government has announced a number of initiatives in the Union Budget 2018-19 for the welfare of the farmers. The details of the initiatives are **Annexed**. The Department is also implementing various schemes to promote the agriculture sector viz. Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme, Neem Coated Urea, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), National Agriculture Market Scheme (e-NAM), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Interest Subvention Scheme etc.

Further, the Government is targeting to double the income of the farmers by the year 2022. To achieve this, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee to examine various dimensions of farmers' income and to recommend an appropriate strategy. In the meanwhile, the Government is aiming to reorient the agriculture sector by focusing on an income-centeredness in addition to pure production centeredness approach.

(b) & (c): The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare (DAC&FW) has taken up several initiatives in the field of agricultural extension all over the country including in Karnataka which include

- (i) 'Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms', which is popularly known as the ATMA Scheme, Mass Media Support to Agricultural Extension and Kisan Call Centres. In order to enhance physical outreach of extension personnel for their direct interface with the farmers, financial support for specialists and functionaries down to the block level has been provided. The key objectives of ATMA scheme include setting up of autonomous institutions at the State/ District/ Block

level, encouraging multi-agency and broad-based extension strategies adopting group approach to extension and facilitating convergence of programmes in planning, executing and implementation. Under Mass Media scheme, the Government is educating farmers through display of exhibits for know-how on new tools and technology, creating awareness about schemes, programmes/ activities being implemented for benefiting and helping farmers. Farmers' education/ awareness programmes are being implemented through agriculture fairs, exhibitions and use of print, electronic media like radio, TV and social media platforms, etc. Under Kisan Call Centre (KCC) scheme, farmers' queries are answered on a telephone call in their own dialect between 6.00 AM to 10.00 PM on all seven days. Presently these call centres are working in 14 different locations covering all the States and UTs. A Toll Free No.1800-180-1551 has been allotted for this purpose.

(ii) Kisan Suvidha Mobile App has been launched by the Government which provides information to farmers on weather, plant protection, input dealers, agro-advisory and marketing. Besides, Pusa Krishi Mobile App, Agri-Market App and Crop Insurance Mobile App have also been launched for the benefit of farmers.

(iii) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established a network of 680 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country with mandate of Technology Assessment and Demonstration for its Application and Capacity Development. A number of activities viz. on-farm trials, front-line demonstrations, creation of awareness on improved agricultural technologies, etc. are conducted by KVKs for the benefit of farmers.

Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3972 due for 20.03.2018 Statement in respect of Part (a) of the Question regarding 'Scientific Cultivation'

S.N.	Budget Announcement
1	MSP for all unannounced Kharif Crops to be 1.5 time to the cost of production
2	NITI Aayog, in consultation with Central and State Governments, will put in place a fool-proof mechanism so that farmers get adequate price for their produce.
3	Government will create an institutional mechanism, with participation of all concerned Ministries, to develop appropriate policies and practices for price and demand forecast, use of futures and options market, expansion of warehouse depository system and to take decisions about specific exports and imports related measures.
4	Government will develop and upgrade existing 22000 Rural haats into Gramin Agricultural Markets
5	Creation of Agri Market Infrastructure fund with a corpus of Rs. 2000 crore
6	Our districts can specialize in some or other agricultural produce and be known for it. There is a need to develop cluster based model in a scientific manner for identified agriculture produces
7	Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare will reorient its ongoing Schemes and promote cluster based development of agri-commodities and regions in partnership with the Ministries of Food Processing, Commerce and other allied Ministries.
8	Organic farming by Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Village Producers' Organizations (VPOs) in large clusters, preferably of 1000 hectares each, will be encouraged
9	Our ecology supports cultivation of highly specialized medicinal and aromatic plants. Our Government shall support organized cultivation and associated industry. I propose to allocate a sum of Rs. 200 crore for this purpose.
10	"Operation Greens" shall promote Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs), agri-logistics, processing facilities and professional management. I propose to allocate a sum of Rs. 500 crore for this purpose. (To facilitate connectivity between farmers and consumers to ensure availability of tomato, onion and potato).
11	We removed bamboo grown outside forest areas from the definition of trees. Now, I propose to launch a Re-structured National Bamboo Mission with an outlay of Rs.1290 crore to promote bamboo sector in a holistic manner.
12	Government of India will take necessary measures and encourage State Governments to put in place a mechanism that their (farmers') surplus solar power is purchased by the distribution companies or licencees at reasonably remunerative rates.
13	Institutional credit for agriculture propose to raise this to Rs. 11 lakh crore for the year 2018-19.
14	NITI Aayog, in consultation with State Governments, will evolve a suitable mechanism to enable access of lessee cultivators to credit without compromising the rights of the land owners.
15	Government will extend a favourable taxation treatment to Farmer Producers Organisations (FPOs) for helping farmers aggregate their needs of inputs, farm services, processing and sale operations.
16	A special Scheme will be implemented to support the efforts of the governments of Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and the NCT of Delhi to address air pollution and to subsidize machinery required for in-situ management of crop residue.
