

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1224**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2018

**EDUCATION OF FARMERS**

1224. SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to provide information to the farmers of the country particularly in Maharashtra on various topics such as diversity of crops to increase the income of the farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the new steps taken by the Government to assist the farmers to take up new occupations related to agriculture such as dairy farming and poultry and to provide information in this regard to double the income of farmers by the year 2022?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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

(a) & (b): Government of India supplement the efforts of the states to diversify agricultural/horticultural crops to increase the income of the farmers through various schemes/programmes viz. National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)/ Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)/ National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)/Rainfed Area Development (RAD), etc in the country including Maharashtra.

(c): In so far as Dairy farming is concerned, the Government has taken following steps:

- The ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI), Karnal has established a Business Planning Development (BPD) Unit to promote dairy & food agribusiness enterprise through consultancy, commercialization of dairy & food technologies and capacity building programmes. The unit not only organizes training programmes on "Commercial Dairy Farming" required for young budding entrepreneurs but also helps small entrepreneurs for setting up dairy farms, food & dairy processing units. The incubatees graduated from the BPD Unit are creating direct or indirect employment for unemployed youth;
- A "Farmers' Farm School" at village level has also been initiated since 2014-15 wherein farmers of at present Haryana State are being trained and encouraged for adopting the scientific ways of dairy farming;
- Holding animal shows at the farmers field and awarding the best animals;

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- Milk competitions for identification of elite dams (female buffaloes) as well as for increasing awareness amongst farmers for rearing high yielding animals;
- Identification of best bulls/progenies of elite dams from the farmers field, collection and freezing of semen from identified bulls and its dissemination to the progressive farmers;
- Training programmes on scientific buffalo husbandry practices. As such, since 2014, 84 trainings have been organized for more than 5400 farmers from different states.

As regards poultry farming, the following steps were taken to mobilize farming community to take up new occupations in the area of poultry farming.

- 36 training programmes were conducted and 948 farmers/farm women and youth were trained in poultry production during last three years, out of which 25-30% started poultry farming. Around, 5.00 lakhs improved germplasm of different poultry species (quail, Turkey, Chicken, Gunea fowl, etc.) have been supplied to the farmers/ entrepreneurs in different states of the country during the last three years. Under the FARMERS FIRST programme, 30 farmer families have been adopted in five villages of Bareilly district and 2500 improved native chickens have been supplied for rearing under backyard (low input) production system. Area specific low cost feed formulae are being provided to the interested farmers. Further, mass awareness on poultry production through FARM SCHOOL ON AIR, participation in regional and national exhibitions, workshops and Kishan Goshthis is being done.
- Particularly in the state of Maharashtra, around 1.2 lakhs improved chicken germplasm with egg production of around 150 eggs/per annum as compared to the native chicken with egg production of 50-70 eggs/per annum has been supplied to farmers and other stakeholders during the last five years.

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