

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4520**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2019

**DOUBLING THE INCOME OF WOMEN FARMERS**

4520. SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the share of women in the production of main crops in the country is 75 per cent;
- (b) if so, the action taken by the Government in order to double the income of the said women agriculturist during the last four years and the current year along with the outcome thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the manner in which the Government is doubling the wages of the women working in the agriculture sector or providing assistance for doubling the income of the women working as self employed farmers?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): As per the Census 2011 conducted by the Registrar General of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, the extent of women participation in agriculture as cultivators (main & marginal) is to the tune of 3.60 crore (30.33%) and as female agricultural labour (main & marginal) to the tune of 6.15 crore (42.67%).

The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare has taken various pro-women initiatives which aim at bringing women into the mainstream agriculture so as to enable them to contribute to doubling family's income, both - in capacity of self-employed farmers as well as working on own farm as unpaid labourer . These include (i) earmarking of 30% of funds for women under various major beneficiary oriented schemes/programmes of the Department; (ii) focussed women specific interventions under ATMA component of Sub-Mission on Agricultural Extension in terms of supporting Women's Food Security groups (WFSGs) (@ 2WFSGs)/Block) and inclusion of one Gender Coordinator/State in the team of committed extension functionaries; (iii) undertaking macro/micro level studies in critical thrust areas related to women in agriculture; (iv) development of Gender Sensitization Capsule Module on Gender Learning and its delivery through training programmes organised through National/Regional/State level training institutes; (v) bringing out farm-women friendly literature and publications such as Compendium of gender friendly tools/technologies, Farm Women Friendly Handbook, compilation of best practices/success stories of the women farmers, etc.

Contd...2/-

Besides, trainings are being imparted to women farmers under various schemes of MoA&FW which include ATMA scheme, Cooperative Education Field Projects (NCDC) of DAC&FW; Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of DARE, ICAR and Entrepreneurship Development and Employment Generation (EDEG) under Sub-Mission on Livestock Development of DAHD. The EDEG supports activities related to poultry, small ruminants, rabbit rearing, piggery etc. which are mainly taken up by women.

Special skill training courses in agriculture and allied sectors are also being conducted for farmers including women farmers through KVKs, National Training Institutions of DAC&FW and State Agricultural Management & Extension Training Institute across the country. All these steps are aimed at building capacities and capabilities of farm women to adopt improved agricultural practices to get better returns.

The Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development is implementing 'Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana' (MKSP), as a sub-component of National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) with an aim to create and sustain agriculture based livelihoods of rural women, which may contribute to raising family income. No specific study to learn State-wise effect of such interventions has however been undertaken.

Minimum wages fixed for agricultural sector in central sphere are equally applicable to both men and women.

\*\*\*\*\*