

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3349**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21<sup>st</sup> MARCH, 2023

**INNOVATION AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN AGRICULTURE**

3349. **SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL:**  
**SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:**  
**MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:**  
**SHRI MAHABALI SINGH:**  
**SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU:**  
**SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:**  
**SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:**

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

- (a) the initiatives taken by the Government for innovation/development of new technologies in agriculture sector during each of the last three years and the current year particularly in the Hooghly Parliamentary constituency in West Bengal, Rohtas, Sitamarhi, Bhagalpur, Sheohar of Bihar, Sonapat district of Haryana and Amravati of Maharashtra;
- (b) whether the Government has evolved any mechanism to disseminate information about the said innovations and technologies to the farmers during the said period, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of farmers who have benefitted from the said innovations and technologies during the said period;
- (d) the main features of the Kisan Portal and its benefits to the farmers;
- (e) the number of farmers who have been benefitted since the launch of the said portal; and
- (f) the details of other steps taken/being taken by the Government in the said matter?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

**(a):** Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/ National Agricultural Research Education and Extension System (NAREES) works for innovation/ development of new technologies in the farm sector across the country like Genetic enhancement of plants/ animals/ fish for higher productivity under increased intensity of biotic and abiotic stresses, productivity enhancement through sustainable intensification, productivity enhancement through mechanization of agriculture and food system, enhancing value, safety and income through food processing, development of energy efficient technologies, farming practices, and promoting technology transfer to the farmers and stake holders. For example, a total of 86 field

crops varieties have been developed for West Bengal, out of which Cereals (36), Oilseeds (23), Pulses (11), Fibre (8), 6 are of Forages and 2 are of Sugarcane. 90 field crops varieties have been developed for Bihar, out of which Cereals (45), Oilseeds (19), Pulses (10), Fibre (6) 7 are of Forages and 3 are of Sugarcane. 140 field crops varieties have been developed for Haryana, out of which Cereals (49), Oilseeds (22), Pulses (22), Fibre (21), Forages (21) and 5 are of Sugarcane. A total of 288 field crops varieties have been developed for Maharashtra, out of which Cereals (70), Oilseeds (44), Pulses (24), Fibre (130), 15 are of Forages and 5 are of Sugarcane.

**(b) and (c):** National Agricultural Research Education and Extension System is an inclusive system for science led Agricultural technologies development and dissemination, coordinated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE). The system comprises 98 Agricultural Research Institutes, 4 Deemed to be Universities and 3 Central Agricultural Universities besides 63 State Agricultural Universities, 4 Universities with Agriculture Faculty mandated for developing, testing and refining new technologies in agriculture sector. To disseminate information about technologies and innovations developed by these institutes and universities to the farmer, Government has been implementing Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) scheme in different States of the Country. The activities of KVKs include on-farm testing to identify the location specificity of technology under various farming systems; frontline demonstrations to establish the production potential of improved agricultural technologies on the farmers' fields; capacity development of farmers for knowledge and skill up gradation; and production of quality seeds, planting materials and other technology inputs for availability to the farmers. Besides, Government implements a centrally sponsored scheme namely Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) which aims at making available the latest agricultural technologies in different thematic areas to increase agricultural production through extension activities viz. Farmers Training, Demonstrations, Exposure Visits, Kisan Mela, Mobilization of Farmers Groups and Setting up of Farm Schools. About 1100.66 lakh farmers have got benefitted through KVKs during last three years including the current year. In various training programmes, about 961.90 lakh farmers have participated. 1.49 lakh on farm trials and 10.29 lakh field level demonstrations respectively, were taken up during the last three years and the current year by KVKs and ICAR Institutes.

**(d) to (e):** The Kisan Portal or Farmers' portal of the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is a platform for farmers to seek any information related to agriculture. Detailed information on farmers' insurance, agricultural storage, crops, extension activities, seeds, pesticides, farm machineries, etc. is provided. Details of fertilizers, market prices, package and practices, programmes, welfare schemes are also given. Block level details related to soil fertility, storage, insurance, training, etc. are available in an interactive map. In the Farmers' Portal, farmer get all relevant information on specific subjects around his village/block /district or state. This information is delivered in the form of text, SMS, email and audio/video in the language he or she understands.

These levels can be easily reached through the Map of India placed on the Home page. Farmers are also able to ask specific queries as well as give valuable feedback through the feedback module specially developed for the purpose. So far 6481774 people have visited the portal till 16th March, 2023 and got benefitted.

**(f):** The available technologies are disseminated through training programmes, Front Line Demonstrations (FLD), On-field Demonstrations (OFD), skill development programs, supplying literatures and handouts to the farmers and farm women, rural youth and in-service extension personnel. These activities are carried out by different agencies and under various schemes of the Government like Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ATMA (Agricultural Technology Management Agency), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtiya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY), Sub-Mission of Seeds and Planting Material (SMSP), Seed Hubs (Pulses, Oilseeds, Millets), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and are implemented by State Governments, ICAR Institutes and Central/State Agricultural Universities.

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