

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2050
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1ST AUGUST, 2023

“Training and Skill Development of Youth in Agriculture”

2050. SHRI BHOLANATH (B.P. SAROJ)

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

- (a) whether considering the immense possibility of employment in agriculture sector, the Government proposes to impart agricultural training to generate interest among youth in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) whether training is being imparted to the youth to enable them to get employment in horticulture, housekeeping and animal husbandry;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for skill development in agriculture sectors, State/UT-wise, particularly in Uttar Pradesh?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a to e) Government is already implementing the following schemes for training Farmers/rural youths in the country;
- i. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on ‘Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms’ popularly known as Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) Scheme is under implementation since 2005. Presently scheme is being implemented in 704 districts of 28 States & 5 UTs in the country including all the districts of Uttar Pradesh. The scheme promotes decentralized farmer-friendly extension system in the country. Under the scheme Grants-in-Aid is released to the State Government with an objective to support State Government’s efforts to make the available the latest agricultural technologies and good agricultural practices in different thematic areas of agriculture and allied sector to farmers including training to rural youth through different extension activities viz; Farmers Training, Demonstrations, Exposure Visits, Kisan Melas, Mobilization of Farmers Groups and organizing Farm Schools etc.
 - ii. From 2016 the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has been operationalizing skill training courses (minimum 200 hours) as per the guidelines of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) for rural youth and

farmers as per the approved Qualification Packs developed by Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI), through the National Training Institutes (NTIs), State Agriculture Management and Extension Training Institutes (SAMETIs) and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) across the country including Uttar Pradesh. There is no state-wise budget allocation and targets for skill training. The funds are released to the identified training institutes on the basis of proposals received in the Department. The knowledge and skills acquired by the trained candidates is utilized for gainful self-employment in agriculture sector.

- iii. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has been operationalizing Skill Training of Rural Youth (STRY) from 2015 with the objective to impart short term skill training (7 days duration) to rural youths and farmers in agriculture and allied areas including Horticulture, Beekeeping and Animal Husbandry for upgradation of their knowledge and skills and promote self employment in rural areas. The National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad is implementing STRY across the country including Uttar Pradesh through State Agricultural Management & Extension Training Institutes (SAMETIs), ATMA and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs). The knowledge and skills acquired by the trained candidates is utilized for gainful self-employment in agriculture sector.
- iv. Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres Scheme (AC&ABC): The Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres (AC&ABC) is an entrepreneurship development scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, implemented by the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) since April 2002. It is aimed at training candidates with educational qualification in agriculture and allied subjects to start their own Agri-ventures and offer extension services to farmers. MANAGE, Hyderabad is the nodal agency for providing training to eligible candidates, through its Nodal Training Institutes (NTIs) spread across the country including Uttar Pradesh.
- v. The Government has set up 731Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in different States of the Country including 89 KVKs in Uttar Pradesh to spread awareness among the farmers to integrate the modern agricultural technology in farming. As part of its activities, the KVKs impart training in agriculture and allied sectors including horticulture, beekeeping and animal husbandry to the rural youth.
