

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3006**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 8<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2023

**WOMEN FARMERS**

**3006. SHRI SANJAY BHATIA:**  
**SHRIMATI MALA ROY:**  
**SHRI MITESH RAMESHBHAI PATEL (BAKABHAI):**  
**SHRIMATI SHARDABEN ANILBHAI PATEL:**

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

- (a) the details of the efforts being made by Government to encourage women in the agricultural sector to sow and harvest the crops and the manner in which the special benefits of agricultural education are extended/being extended to women in the State of Gujarat;
- (b) the details of the efforts being made by Government to ensure that no man or woman has to quit their agriculture profession;
- (c) the percentage of women farmers in the country and the percentage of those women who have land holding in their names;
- (d) whether the Government plans to increase/ incentivize womens' participation in agriculture; and
- (e) whether women are not recognized as farmers despite twenty five percent stake as self-employed entrepreneurs in agricultural and allied sectors?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a):** The Government has set up 30 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the Gujarat state with mandate of technology assessment and demonstration for capacity development of farmers including women farmers in the field of agriculture and allied sectors including sowing and harvesting of crops. The activities of KVKs include on-farm testing to identify the location specificity of technology under various farming systems; frontline demonstration 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.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) through the Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (CIWA), Bhubaneswar has taken steps to refine, modify and redesign women-friendly technologies to decrease their drudgery as well as increase the productivity of farm women. Some of the tools developed for drudgery reduction of farm women are Maize dehusker cum sheller for drudgery reduction of farm women (commercialized), Women Friendly Power Operated Groundnut Stripper Cum Decorticator, ergonomically suitable low-cost harvesting bag for easy loading and unloading while harvesting Mango, Seed treatment drum, Pedal-operated paddy thresher etc.

Five Agriculture and allied sector Universities of Gujarat are taking care of agricultural education of both male and female students. Under National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) sponsored by ICAR, it is also encouraged to send more female students for overseas training.

**(b):** Government of India is implementing various Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes keeping in view the present and future requirements of the agriculture sector as well as the interests of all farmers so that no man or woman has to quit their agriculture profession. These schemes cover entire spectrum of agriculture including infrastructure, technology, mechanization, irrigation, fertilizers, seeds, skill development, income support to farmers, procurement of crops at minimum support prices, credit and crop insurance at subsidized rates, marketing, support for agri-startups etc. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana, Minimum Support Price, Kisan Credit Card, Institutional Credit for Agriculture, Interest Subvention Scheme, Agriculture Infrastructure fund, Soil Health Card, formation of Farmers Producer Organisation etc. are implemented for improving livelihood of farmers.

**(c):** According to Agriculture Census 2015-16, 13.96% of total land holdings are female-operated land holdings.

As per Census 2011, out of the total cultivators (118.7 million), 30.3% are women. Out of 144.3 million agricultural labourers, 42.6% are women.

**(d):** Government of India is implementing various schemes and programmes for the farmers including women farmers as per eligibility and conditions existing in scheme guidelines. The guidelines of the various beneficiary-oriented schemes of the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare provide that States and other implementing agencies should incur at least 30% of expenditure on women farmers. These schemes include Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms, National Food Security Mission, National Mission on Oilseed & Oil Palm, National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture, Sub-Mission for Seed and Planting Material, Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture.

**(e):** Women are also recognized as farmers.

\*\*\*\*\*