

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 32**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2020

**PROMOTION OF FARMING**

\*32. SHRI GOPAL CHINNAYA SHETTY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to promote farming in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has imparted training to farmers to practice farming in scientific manner;
- (d) whether farmers have been given information in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the names of the districts where the said programme has been organized along with the details thereof, State-wise?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 32 DUE FOR REPLY ON 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2020.**

(a) & (b): Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various schemes/ programmes. The various schemes/ programmes of the Government of India are meant for the welfare of farmers by increasing production, remunerative returns and income support to farmers. A list of various initiatives taken by the Government are at **Annexure-I**. All these steps of the Government of India are for the welfare of the farmers of the country.

(c) & (d): The Government is implementing the following schemes aimed at imparting training to farmers at Panchayat and village level in the agriculture and allied sectors for increasing agricultural production :-

A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms' popularly known as Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) Scheme is under implementation in 684 districts of 28 States & 5 UTs of the country. The scheme promotes decentralized farmer-friendly extension system in the country with an objective to support State Government's efforts to revitalize the extension system and making available the latest agricultural technologies and Good Agricultural Practices in different thematic areas of agriculture and allied areas to farmers. The extension activities under ATMA include Farmers Training, Demonstrations, Exposure Visits, Kisan Melas, Mobilization of Farmers Groups and organizing Farm Schools, etc. During the year, 2018-19 and current year 2019-20 (till date), 19.18 lakh and 7.73 lakh farmers respectively availed training benefits under ATMA.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) with its network of 716 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) has mandate of technology assessment, demonstration and capacity development of farmers. KVKs are imparting training to farmers for getting higher agricultural production and income. During the year 2018-19, 15.75 lakh farmers were trained by KVKs in various thematic areas.

Four Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institutes (FMTTIs) located at Budni (MP), Hissar (Haryana), Ananthapur (AP) and Biswanath Chariali (Assam) are engaged in imparting training to various categories of trainees including farmers, in the field of Farm Mechanization. During the year 2018-19 and 2019-20 (till date), these Institutes have trained 9905 and 5723 candidates respectively.

National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is being implemented in identified districts of 28 States and 2 UTs viz. Ladakh and J&K of the country to increase the production and productivity of rice, wheat, pulses, coarse cereals and nutri cereals (millets) through area expansion and productivity enhancement. During the year 2018-19 and 2019-20 (till date), 3,42,188 and 5,11,530 numbers of farmers have been trained respectively.

Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented for holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits, vegetables, root and tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew, cocoa and bamboo. All States and UTs are covered under MIDH. During the 2018-19 and 2019-20 (till date), 1,91,086 and 1942 number of farmers have been trained respectively.

In addition to the above, training of farmers is an inbuilt component under Sub-Mission on Plant Protection & Plant Quarantine. Farmer Field Schools are conducted for promoting

Integrated Pest Management among farmers. During the year 2018-19 and 2019-20 (till date), 712 & 351 FFSs have been organized under the scheme, respectively.

Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization was launched in 2014-15 with the objectives to increase the reach of Farm Mechanization to Small and Marginal farmers and the regions where availability of farm power is low. During the year 2018-19 and the current year i.e. 2019-20 (till date), 3,85,300 & 1,47,503 number of agricultural machineries have been distributed respectively and 5,189 & 2,300 custom hiring centres have been established respectively.

A new Central Sector Scheme is being implemented on promotion of agricultural mechanization for in-situ-management of Crop Residue in States of Haryana, Punjab, UP and NCT of Delhi (CRM) for the period from 2018-19 to 2019-20. An amount of Rs. 575.18 crore was released in 2018-19 and Rs. 594.14 crore during 2019-20 (till date) to Haryana, Punjab, UP and NCT of Delhi for stopping stubble burning.

For modernizing agriculture system, following initiatives have been taken by Government –

The National e-Governance Plan in Agriculture was launched to use Information & Communication Technology for timely access to agriculture related information for the farmers. Kisan Suvidha mobile application facilitates dissemination of information to farmers on the critical parameters viz., Weather; Market Prices; Plant Protection; input Dealers (Seed, Pesticide, Fertilizer) Farm Machinery; Soil Health Card; Cold Storages & Godowns, Veterinary Centres and Diagnostic Labs. Crop related advisories are sent to the registered farmers through SMSs on mKisan Portal ([www.mkisan.gov.in](http://www.mkisan.gov.in)). The Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has compiled more than 100 mobile apps developed by ICAR, State Agricultural Universities and Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the areas of crops, horticulture, veterinary, dairy, poultry, fisheries, natural resources management and integrated subjects.

The National Agriculture Market scheme (e-NAM) facilitates farmers with remunerative prices for their produce through a system of competitive and transparent electronic online trading platform. Per Drop More Crop component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana focuses on water use efficiency at farm level through precision/micro irrigation technologies viz., Drip and Sprinkler irrigation. Implementation of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme of Agricultural Marketing, in order to improve/create scientific storage capacity for storing farm produce, processed farm produce and to reduce post-harvest storage loss. Soil Health Card Scheme assists State Governments in providing Soil Health Cards to all farmers across the country which provides information to the farmers on nutrient status of their soil along with recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving crop productivity and soil fertility.

Use of space technology for various programmes/areas such as Forecasting Agricultural Output using Space, Agro-meteorology and Land-based Observations project, Coordinated programme on Horticulture Assessment and Management using geo-informatics project, National Agricultural Drought Assessment and Monitoring System, Rice-fallow Area Mapping and Intensification, geo tagging of infrastructure and assets created under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana and Crop Insurance.

The Government has set up 716 Krishi Vigyan Kendras and 684 Agricultural Technology Management Agencies at district level for dissemination of technologies among farm community. In addition, farmers are provided information through Focused Publicity Campaigns, Kisan Call Centres, Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres of entrepreneurs, Agri Fairs and exhibitions, Kisan SMS Portal, etc.

Under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization, in order to increase the availability of machines to farmers on rental basis, Custom Hiring Centres, Hi-tech hubs, Farm

Machinery Banks have been established. A Multi lingual Mobile App “CHC- Farm Machinery” has been launched which encompasses a rental process while focusing on quality, dependability and timely delivery of the services to the farmers.

Development and availability of quality seeds has been increased from 380.30 lakhs Qtls. to 431.01 lakhs Qtls during 2016-17 to 2019-20. More than 1100 new seed varieties, which include climate resilient varieties, have been released and notified during 2014-2019 out of which 35 are Bio-fortified.

(e): A state-wise detail where the said programme has been organized is at **Annexure-II**.

Statement in respect of Part (a) & (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 32 due for 04.02.2020 regarding 'Promotion of Farming'

The strategy of the Government is to focus on farmers' welfare by making farming viable. The schemes of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare focus on directly benefitting farmers through various interventions and schemes and include:-

- (i) Implementation of flagship scheme of distribution of Soil Health Cards to farmers so that the use of fertilizers can be rationalized.
- (ii) "Per drop more crop" initiative under which drip/sprinkler irrigation is being encouraged for optimal utilization of water, reducing cost of inputs and increasing productivity.
- (iii) "Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)" for promoting organic farming.
- (iv) Launch of e-NAM initiative to provide farmers an electronic transparent and competitive online trading platform.
- (v) With a view to provide better insurance coverage to crops for risk mitigation, a crop insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) was launched from Kharif 2016 season. This scheme provides insurance cover for all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances, with low premium contribution by farmers.
- (vi) Under "Har Medh Par Ped", agro forestry is being promoted for additional income. With the amendment of Indian Forest Act, 1927, Bamboo has been removed from the definition of trees. A restructured National Bamboo Mission has been launched in the year 2018 to promote bamboo plantation on non forest government as well as private land and emphasis on value addition, product development and markets.
- (vii) Giving a major boost for the farmer's income, the Government has approved the increase in the Minimum Support Price (MSPs) for all Kharif & Rabi crops for 2018-19 season at a level of at least 150 percent of the cost of production.
- (viii) Giving a major boost to the pro-farmer initiatives, the Government has approved a new Umbrella Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)'. The Scheme is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce as announced in the Union Budget for 2018. This is an unprecedented step taken by Govt. of India to protect the farmers' income which is expected to go a long way towards the welfare of farmers.
- (ix) Bee keeping has been promoted under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) to increase the productivity of crops through pollination and increase the honey production as an additional source of income of farmers.

- (x) Extending the reach of institutional credit to more and more farmers is priority area of the Government and to achieve this goal, the Government provides interest subvention of 2% on short-term crop loans up to Rs.3.00 lakh. Presently, loan is available to farmers at an interest rate of 7% per annum, which gets reduced to 4% on prompt repayment.
- (xi) Government sets annual target for the flow of credit to the agriculture sector, Banks have been consistently surpassing the annual target. The current year's agriculture credit flow target has been set at Rs. 13.50 lakh crore.
- (xii) Further, under Interest Subvention Scheme 2018-19, in order to provide relief to the farmers on occurrence of natural calamities, the interest subvention of 2% shall continue to be available to banks for the first year on the restructured amount. In order to discourage distress sale by farmers and to encourage them to store their produce in warehouses against negotiable receipts, the benefit of interest subvention will be available to small and marginal farmers having Kisan Credit Card for a further period of upto six months post harvest on the same rate as available to crop loan.
- (xiii) The Government has approved for giving the facility of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to the farmers practicing animal husbandry and fisheries related activities and has also decided to extend the Interest Subvention Facilities to such categories of farmers.
- (xiv) With a view to provide income support to all farmers' families across the country, to enable them to take care of expenses related to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs, the Central Government started a new Central Sector Scheme, namely, the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN). The scheme aims to provide a payment of Rs. 6000/- per year, in three 4-monthly instalments of Rs. 2000/- to the farmers families, subject to certain exclusions relating to higher income groups.
- (xv) Further with a view to provide social security net for Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF) as they have minimal or no savings to provide for old age and to support them in the event of consequent loss of livelihood, the Government has decided to implement another new Central Sector Scheme for providing old age pension to these farmers. Under this Scheme, a minimum fixed pension of Rs. 3000/- will be provided to the eligible small and marginal farmers, subject to certain exclusion clauses, on attaining the age of 60 years. The scheme aims to cover around 3 crore beneficiaries in the first three years. It would be a voluntary and contributory pension scheme, with entry age of 18 to 40 years.



**Farmer oriented activities (2019-20)**

S. NO.	STATE	EXPO-VISIT		TRAINING		DEMO.		KISAN MELAS		TOTAL		FIGs Mobilized	Farm Schools
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Andhra Pr.	2082	696	30634	14133	1299	1083	3230	1598	37245	17510	34	26
2	Bihar	23816	5770	73643	17447	1986	0	36495	8561	135940	31778	1163	762
3	Chhatisgarh	5814	571	14602	4885	12008	903	43660	14067	76084	20426	115	114
4	Goa	94	412	1194	1886	92	43	88	52	1468	2393	45	5
5	Gujarat	22246	12535	95863	56497	24452	8251	32767	11857	175328	89140	3014	744
6	Haryana	12000	2300	10230	1650	2520	0	19000	3200	43750	7150	0	204
7	H.P	70	30	2057	1362	789	525	1358	3067	4274	4984	36	65
8	J & K	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Jharkhand	6896	2974	7707	3268	4387	1881	14830	6304	33820	14427	432	539
10	Karnataka	13873	5968	16067	14792	677	472	30239	31925	60856	53157	857	307
11	Kerala	2282	1995	8254	6567	725	0	162	117	11423	8679	469	48
12	Maharashtra	8530	3655	51962	22385	32124	13767	10887	4664	103503	44471	1319	3199
13	M.P.	5635	778	9764	859	2417	52	13268	637	31084	2326	1549	695
14	Orissa	13072	5428	11644	4756	4000	1635	2100	900	30816	12719	2796	628
15	Punjab	5135	71	6485	152	315	9	34933	2283	46868	2515	0	49
16	Rajasthan	5935	759	16908	5374	25844	8666	48486	11313	97173	26112	292	434
17	Telangana	4549	1948	26769	11473	1524	654	6654	2976	39496	17051	187	86
18	Tamil Nadu	84805	36347	67312	28847	28920	12395	34371	14729	215408	92318	2327	423
19	U.P	21810	8890	54545	22708	13908	5960	143963	61688	234226	99246	2148	3188
20	Uttarakhand	6168	2299	13506	5146	3202	918	18028	8360	40904	16723	300	269
21	W.B	20940	11660	75200	44800	18700	11000	250	125	115090	67585	1050	830
22	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Ar.Pradesh	0	0	34860	14940	2278	977	69230	29720	106368	45637	0	0
24	Manipur	1500	0	800	0	600	0	0	0	2900	0	180	60
25	Meghalaya	616	626	1618	2178	294	0	496	565	3024	3369	80	71
26	Mizoram	1158	592	3208	2152	2107	813	520	200	6993	3757	0	30
27	Nagaland	1878	1487	9509	9583	5595	7721	20946	9847	37928	28638	296	74
28	Tripura	0	0	404	171	2145	0	0	0	2549	171	0	0
29	Sikkim	416	126	764	236	542	403	428	258	2150	1023	31	31
30	Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	A&N	0	0	220	161	14	6	2877	1956	3111	2123	0	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>271320</b>	<b>107917</b>	<b>645729</b>	<b>298408</b>	<b>193464</b>	<b>78134</b>	<b>589266</b>	<b>230969</b>	<b>1699779</b>	<b>715428</b>	<b>18720</b>	<b>12882</b>
		<b>379237</b>		<b>944137</b>		<b>271598</b>		<b>820235</b>		<b>2415207</b>			

M= Number of male farmers, F= Number of female farmers.

Contd...2/-



**State-wise Progress of Skill Trainings (200 hrs. Duration)**

Sl. No.	State	Number of Candidates trained		
		2016-17	2017 - 18	2018 - 19
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	117	170	691
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	32	0	80
3	ASSAM	57	57	336
4	BIHAR	178	40	1022
5	CHHATTISGARH	183	0	589
6	DELHI	37	0	40
7	GOA	0	0	40
8	GUJARAT	192	21	599
9	HARYANA	197	40	318
10	HIMACHAL PRADESH	111	16	380
11	JAMMU & KASHMIR	70	62	564
12	JHARKHAND	146	0	648
13	KARNATAKA	72	38	767
14	KERALA	75	20	389
15	MADHYA PRADESH	204	80	1428
16	MAHARASHTRA	292	78	1189
17	MANIPUR	77	0	254
18	MEGHALAYA	37	0	140
19	MIZORAM	79	22	110
20	NAGALAND	105	90	231
21	ODISHA	90	0	923
22	PUNJAB	224	101	620
23	RAJASTHAN	351	174	1295
24	SIKKIM	30	0	40
25	TAMIL NADU	185	20	520
26	TELANGANA	75	40	522
27	TRIPURA	39	0	100
28	UTTAR PRADESH	173	60	967
29	UTTARAKHAND	28	20	360
30	WEST BENGAL	143	29	756
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3599</b>	<b>1178</b>	<b>15918</b>

\*\*\*\*\*

