

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3883
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st DECEMBER, 2021

CONTRIBUTION OF WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

†3883. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

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

- (a) whether 80 per cent of economically active women are contributing to the agriculture sector which includes agriculture labour force and self-employed farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some special policy measures are being taken by the Government to ensure the maximum participation of women in agriculture start-ups; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): As per the Census 2011 conducted by the Registrar General of India , the total number of women farmers as cultivators are 3.60 crore and agricultural labour are 6.15 crore in the country.

(c) & (d): The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has launched a component called “Innovation and Agri-Entrepreneurship Development” under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY-RAFTAAR) in 2018-19 with an objective to promote innovation and agri-entrepreneurship by providing financial support and nurturing the incubation ecosystem. This Ministry has appointed five Knowledge Partners (KPs) as Centres of Excellence and twenty four RKVY-RAFTAAR Agribusiness Incubators (R-ABIs) from across the country for implementation this programme. So far, 173 women startups/ entrepreneurs have been supported under the “Innovation and Agri-Entrepreneurship Development” programme. Besides, the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has been supporting Agri-based startups under the project called ‘National Agriculture Innovation Fund (NAIF)’ initiated in year 2016-2017. So far, 50 Agri-Business Incubation Centers (ABICs) have been established and are operational in ICAR network under NAIF scheme. Potential women startups/ entrepreneurs can avail benefit from these programmes.