

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1382**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2022

**KISAN DRONES**

1382. SHRI MANNE SRINIVAS REDDY:  
SHRI KOMATI REDDY VENKAT REDDY:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that drones could be used for spraying pesticides and other plant chemicals in around 30,000 acres during Kharif season largely as pilot projects and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the limitation in using drones for spraying plant chemicals will come from small and marginal farmers as their financial heft is limited and drones can become successful with large farmers who have large land parcels, not in places where land parcels are small and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of steps being taken to address such issues to help farmers?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c): The drones can be used for spraying of chemical pesticides and application of soil nutrients and accordingly, the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has released the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for use of drones in pesticide and nutrient application, which provide concise instructions for effective and safe operations of drones. The Department so far has released funds amounting to Rs.2.25 crores to the Government of Kerala for purchase of 14 drones for its demonstration in farmers' fields in 4000 hectares through Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Rs. 52.50 crores to Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for purchase of 300 drones and their demonstrations in farmers' fields in 75000 hectares through 100 KrishiVigyanKendras (KVKs), 75 ICAR Institutions and 25 State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) across the country.

The Department is also providing financial assistance @ 40% of the basic cost of drone and its attachments up to a maximum of Rs. 4.00 lakhs for establishment of Custom Hiring Centers (CHCs) under Cooperative Society of Farmers, Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Rural entrepreneurs. The agricultural graduates establishing the drone CHCs are provided financial assistance @ 50% of the cost of drone up to a maximum of Rs. 5.00 lakhs. The main objective these CHCs is to make available drone services on hire to the farmers including the small and marginal farmers.

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