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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1501 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26th JULY, 2022

ENCOURAGING WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR

1501. SHRI PARBATBHAI SAVABHAI PATEL: SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:

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

- (a) the details of the efforts being made by the Government to encourage women in the agricultural sector to saw and harvest crops;
- (b) the details of the way by which the special benefits of agricultural education are extended/ being extended to women in the State of Gujarat;
- (c) the number of women who have quitted the agricultural sector due to Covid-19; and
- (d) the details of the efforts being made by the Government to ensure that no man or woman have to guit their agriculture profession due to pandemic?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): The Government 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 (DA&FW), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare provide that States and other implementing agencies should incur 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.

The Central Sector Scheme Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is being implemented by DA&FW with the aim of providing financial assistance to landholding farmer families including women farmers across the country, subject to certain exclusion criteria.

Ministry of Rural Development is implementing Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana, a sub-component of Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission with the aim to empower women by making systematic investments to enhance their participation and productivity, as also to create sustainable livelihoods of rural women. It is a demand driven programme implemented in project mode through the State Rural Livelihoods Mission as Project Implementing Agencies.

The Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (CIWA), Bhubaneswar under Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi is working with the mandate to undertake research on gender issues in agriculture and allied fields, through its All India Coordinated Research Project Centers in India.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established 731 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country including Gujarat mandated with Technology Assessment and Demonstration for its Application and Capacity Development. KVKs organize training programs for the benefit of farmers and farm women, rural youth and extension personnel and organize women specific activities on various topics. In order to familiarize women with the latest techniques in agriculture and allied sectors, trainings are also being imparted to women under schemes of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

(c) & d): The Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India had issued comprehensive guidelines on the measures to be taken for containment of Covid-19, which also ensured smooth functioning of Agricultural operations / sector and timely harvesting of crops. Agriculture sector showed positive growth during the same period.

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