

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 219**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2024

**CENTRAL AGRICULTURE AND VETERINARY UNIVERSITY IN TAMIL NADU**

\*219. KM. SUDHA R:

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering any proposal for establishment of a Central Agriculture University and a Central Veterinary University in the region of Mayiladuthurai and Kumbakonam in Tamil Nadu, given the significant agricultural activities and livestock farming in the region and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) If not, whether the Government is considering including this in the future development agenda and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) The initiatives taken by the Government to provide advanced education and research facilities to support local farmers and the agricultural community?

**ANSWER**

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

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

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**STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 219 TO BE ANSWERED ON 6<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2024 REGARDING “CENTRAL AGRICULTURE AND VETERINARY UNIVERSITY IN TAMIL NADU”**

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(a) & (b): At present, there is no proposal to establish a Central Agriculture University and a Central Veterinary University in Tamil Nadu.

However, Tamil Nadu state has 03 Universities which cater to the need of agriculture & allied subjects for the welfare of the farming community as well as students. These are:

- (i) Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS), Chennai;
- (ii) Tamil Nadu Dr J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University (TNJFU), Nagapattinam;
- (iii) Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore

These Universities together have 35 constituent colleges, 29 affiliated colleges, 51 research centres/farms, 20 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), 7 Agri-incubation Centres and linkages with 120 Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs) within the state of Tamil Nadu.

(c) Following initiatives have been taken by the Government to provide advanced education and research facilities to support local farmers and the agricultural community:

(i) Government has established 03 Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institutes, namely, ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore; ICAR-Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture, Chennai and ICAR-National Research Centre for Banana, Tiruchirapalli and 14 Regional Centres of various ICAR Institutes to cater the need of the farmers.

(ii) The TNAU, Coimbatore and TANUVAS, Chennai received significant funding (Rs 52.44 crores) under the ICAR-National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) (2018-2023) to modernize their infrastructure and curriculum. Key initiatives include establishing smart classrooms, language labs, and technology-focused labs, offering drone training and creating AR/VR modules, and building a learning center with simulators. These efforts have enhanced quality of agricultural education and skill development among youth (e.g. more than 100 students imparted Drone Pilot training).

(iii) Development grants have been provided to the universities (TNAU, TANUVAS and TNJFU) for creating/renovation of facilities to cater the need of students and farmers of the state during last three years.

(iv) In order to achieve educational excellence in teaching and research in agriculture and allied science subjects, ICAR supports the students by awarding fellowships/scholarships to students, including those in Tamil Nadu, through ICAR entrance examination for ICAR quota seats.

(v) Government has established 31 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) to provide knowledge and training to farmers in agricultural technologies and livelihood based skill activities.

(vi) Drone technology for spraying agro-chemicals and fertilizers was demonstrated to 7861 farmers in Tamil Nadu State. The technology saves 90 % of time and 93% water, 12% cost of operation and, reduces health hazard and environmental pollution.

(vii) 07 agribusiness incubation centres of TNAU, Coimbatore also provide services to students and other stakeholders.

(viii) TNAU, Coimbatore has established linkages with 120 Farmer Producer Organizations to provide knowledge and guidance on advanced technologies for increasing productivity and formulating business plans.

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