

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1206
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD DECEMBER 2024

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER SMAM

1206. SHRI G LAKSHMINARAYANA:

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

- (a) the details of the financial assistance and grants provided under the Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) for the purchase of drones, including the eligibility criteria and the total number of beneficiaries so far, State-wise;
- (b) the number of agricultural institutes, Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) that have received financial assistance for the purchase of drones for agricultural applications, State-wise and district-wise for Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) the number of drone demonstrations conducted in farmers' fields including the total area covered under these demonstrations, district-wise;
- (d) whether any challenges have been faced in the implementation of the drone-based agriculture initiatives and if so, the reasons for the delays or challenges encountered; and
- (e) the steps being taken to encourage the use of drones in agriculture, including the promotion of domestic drone manufacturing and the training of remote pilots?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY)

(a) to (e): Under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM), financial assistance @ 100% of the cost of drone up to a maximum of Rs. 10 lakhs per drone is provided for its purchase and demonstration on the farmers' fields by the institutes under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institutes, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), State Agriculture Universities (SAUs), State and other Central Government Agricultural Institutions/Departments and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) of Government of India engaged in agricultural activities. The Farmers Producers Organizations (FPOs) are provided grants up to 75% of the cost of Kisan Drone for its demonstrations on the farmers' fields. In order to make available drone services to farmers on rental basis, financial assistance @ 40% up to a maximum of Rs. 4.00 lakhs are provided for purchase of drones by CHCs under Cooperative Society of Farmers, FPOs and Rural entrepreneurs. Agriculture graduates establishing CHCs are eligible to receive financial assistance @ 50% of the cost of drone up to a maximum of Rs.5.00 lakhs per drone. For purchase of drones on

individual ownership basis, the Small and Marginal, Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe, Women and North Eastern State farmers are provided financial assistance @ 50% of the cost up to a maximum of Rs. 5.00 lakhs and other farmers @ 40% up to a maximum of Rs. 4.00 lakhs per drone.

The Government has approved 'Namo Drone Didi' as Central Sector Scheme for providing drones to the Women Self Help Groups (SHGs) with an outlay of Rs. 1261 Crores for the period from 2023-24 to 2025-26. The scheme aims to provide drones to 15000 selected Women SHGs. Under this scheme, there is a provision of Central Financial Assistance (CFA) @ 80% of the cost of drone and accessories/ancillary charges up to a maximum of Rs. 8.00 lakhs per drone to the selected women SHGs. The drones are supplied as a package, which also includes mandatory drone pilot training and additional training for agriculture purpose for nutrient and pesticide application for one of the members of these women SHGs. Provisions are also made to train other member/ family member of the SHGs as drone assistant.

The State-wise and institution-wise number of drone approved by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare so far under SMAM is given in Annexure-I. As per information provided by the Department of Agriculture, Government of Andhra Pradesh, the district-wise drone allocation under SMAM is not so far made by the State. However, the district-wise number of SHGs provided with drones by the LFCs in 2023-24 in the State of Andhra Pradesh under Namo Drone Didi scheme is given in Annexure-II. The number of drone demonstrations conducted by the institutions of ICAR in farmers' fields including the total area covered under these demonstrations is given in Annexure-III.

The drones are recently introduced in the agriculture sector. The challenges faced in the implementation of the drone-based agriculture is so far not reported by the States. However, the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has entrusted the economic and business viability study of the drone operations to Agriculture Development and Rural Transformation Centre (ADRTC), Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru on 500 drones distributed by the Lead Fertilizer Companies from their own resources in the year 2023-24.

The initiatives under these schemes are targeted towards infusing advance technology in agriculture for improved efficiency, enhanced crop yield and reduced cost of operation for the benefit of farmers and boosting domestic drone manufacturing and also expanding the spread of Remote Pilot Training Organization (RPTO) for training of drone pilots.

Annexure- I**State-wise and Institution-wise Numbers of Drones approved /distributed under Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)**

S. No.	State	No. of drones for distribution to individual farmers	Number of Drone for distribution to the CHCs	Number of drones for demonstration
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	1475	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	-	-
3.	Bihar	5	-	-
4.	Chhattisgarh	-	50	-
5.	Karnataka	-	7	-
6.	Kerala	24	-	-
7.	Madhya Pradesh	300	-	-
8.	Maharashtra	17	25	-
9.	Manipur	-	4	-
10.	Nagaland	-	2	-
11.	Tamil Nadu	10	-	-
12.	Uttar Pradesh	158	-	-
13.	Uttarakhand	2	32	-
14.	West Bengal	4	-	-
15.	Puducherry	5	-	-
16.	Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)	-	-	70
17.	Agricultural Universities including State Agricultural Universities	-	-	33
18.	Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)	-	-	93
	Total	527	1595	196

Annexure-II

District-wise Number of SHGs provided with drones by the LFCs in 2023-24 in the State of Andhra Pradesh

S. No.	District	No. of SHGs
1.	Alluri Seetharamaraju	1
2.	Ananthapuram	3
3.	Annamayya	5
4.	Bapatla	6
5.	Chittoor	5
6.	Dr B R Konaseema	1
7.	Eluru	6
8.	Kakinada	4
9.	Krishna	6
10.	Kurnool	8
11.	Nandyal	9
12.	NTR	3
13.	Palnadu	4
14.	Prakasam	6
15.	SPSR Nellore	4
16.	Sr. Satya Sai	1
17.	Srikakulam	11
18.	Tirupathi	2
19.	West Godavari	6
20.	YSR Kadapa	5
	Total	96

Annexure III

Details of district-wise drone demonstrations conducted by the institutions of ICAR

S. No	District	State	No. of drone demonstration	Area Covered in Drone Demonstration (Ha)	Total no. of farmers Participated
1	Ludhiana	Punjab	182	147.5	925
2.	Moga	Punjab	51	45.00	567
3.	Sangrur	Punjab	5	42.00	698
4.	Barnala	Punjab	109	130.00	331
5.	Jalandhar	Punjab	21	40	1500
6.	Solan	Himachal Pradesh	426	496	6117
7.	Mandi	Himachal Pradesh	113	173.5	1507
8.	Palampur	Himachal Pradesh	261	236.2	5641
9.	Jammu	Jammu & Kashmir	302	389.8	4751
10.	Kulgam	Jammu & Kashmir	190	84	23386
11.	Ganderbal	Jammu & Kashmir	32	70.9	1740
12.	Srinagar	Jammu & Kashmir	6	5.08	453
13.	Haridwar	Uttarakhand	22	45	122
14.	Pantnagar	Uttarakhand	19	83	19
15.	Almora	Uttarakhand	105	1.5	110
16.	Dehradun	Uttarakhand	237	191	950
17.	Ambala	Haryana	250	250	22135
18.	Gurugram	Haryana	178	178.15	192
19.	Mahendergarh	Haryana	635	250	1165
20.	Sonipat	Haryana	764	305.6	27390
21.	Hisar	Haryana	250	250	250
22.	Barmer-II	Rajasthan	27	68	977
23.	Bhilwara-1	Rajasthan	250	250	4622
24.	Jhunjhunu	Rajasthan	27	29.4	1135
25.	Tonk	Rajasthan	75	75	14700
26.	Pali-1	Rajasthan	1	1	10
27.	Jodhpur	Rajasthan	226	136.04	110
28.	Bharatpur	Rajasthan	100	100	98
29.	Ajmer	Rajasthan	62	46	1540
30.	Bikaner	Rajasthan	4	4	17
31.	Kota	Rajasthan	3	3	18
32.	Udaipur	Rajasthan	5	31	454
33.	Delhi	Delhi	426	500	4316
34.	Meerut	Uttar Pradesh	4	62	220
35.	Bijnor	Uttar Pradesh	26	20	26
36.	Shamli	Uttar Pradesh	48	55	1102
37.	Ayodhya	Uttar Pradesh	10	82	82
38.	Bahraich-1	Uttar Pradesh	42	42	458
39.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	18	86.28	510
40.	Bareilly	Uttar Pradesh	3	2	35

41.	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	380	418	1448
42.	Jhansi	Uttar Pradesh	40	197	2868
43.	Mau	Uttar Pradesh	221	588	1166
44.	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	3	4.75	375
45.	Agra	Uttar Pradesh	99	43	106
46.	Sitapur	Uttar Pradesh	90	90.2	826
47.	Lalitpur	Uttar Pradesh	10	100	98
48.	Chitrakoot	Uttar Pradesh	56	94.34	789
49.	Mirzapur	Uttar Pradesh	2	6.25	30
50.	Muzaffarpur	Bihaar	14	73	190
51.	Patna	Bihar	884	469.6	1184
52.	Ranchi	Jammu & Kashmir	147	200	147
53.	Sabour	Bihar	2	200	1500
54.	Samastipur	Bihar	106	153	950
55.	Saran	Bihar	22	22	185
56.	East Champaran	Bihar	104	226.79	255
57.	Jehanabad	Bihar	371	263.6	371
58.	Kishanganj	Bihar	389	250	389
59.	Saharsa	Bihar	406	300	406
60.	Nawada	Bihar	545	218	585
61.	Gumla	Jharkhand	791	316.27	392
62.	Deograh	Jharkhand	10	73	465
62.	Nimpith	West Bengal	32	250	496
63.	Narendrapur	West Bengal	27	250	1626
64.	Sargachhi	West Bengal	43	272	2490
65.	Birbhum	West Bengal	4	2	6
66.	Coochbehar	West Bengal	62	200	920
67.	Mayurbhanj	West Bengal	45	279	945
68.	Barrackopre	West Bengal	7	400	1500
69.	Nadia	West Bengal	20	120	980
70.	Nayagarh	Odisha	15	270	650
71.	Bhubaneswar	Odisha	6	13	200
72.	East Siang	Arunachal Pradesh	1	5	40
73.	Nalbari	Assam	1	1	20
74.	Jorhat	Assam	256	255	6411
75.	Lakhimpur	Assam	70	2	1412
76.	Karimganj	Assam	49	7.91	1241
77.	Dima Hasao	Assam	6	2	150
78.	Kamrup	Assam	100	23.2	2520
79.	South Sikkim	Sikkim	250	130	2750
80.	Imphal East	Manipur	14	14	14
81.	Kohima	Nagaland	-	262	1232
82.	East Khasi Hills	Meghalaya	74	89	910
83.	Khowai	Tripura	195	109	5932
84.	Aizawl	Mizoram	27	31	780
85.	Bishnupur	Manipur	20	20	150
86.	Medziphema	Nagaland	10	40	231
87.	Ri-bhoi	Meghalaya	8	5	334
88.	Akola	Maharashtra	51	28	1623
89.	MPKV, Rahuri	Maharashtra	7	4	215
90.	Nagpur	Maharashtra	18	12.4	122

91	Pune	Maharashtra	309	345.5	11100
92	Malegaon	Maharashtra	8	4.21	60
93	Jalna	Maharashtra	19	8	742
94	Dhule	Maharashtra	5	12	490
95	Yavatmal	Maharashtra	22	10	490
96	Kolhapur	Maharashtra	46	46	936
97	Anand	Gujarat	11	11	100
98	Navsari	Gujarat	2	2	55
99	Junagadh	Gujarat	503	201	625
100	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	10	10	450
101	Kheda	Gujarat	822	158.4	205
102	Panchmahal	Gujarat	--	205	1225
103	North Goa	Goa	1	1.6	22
104	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	191	395	3560
105	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	2707	1384	9252
106	Indore	Madhya Pradesh	55	115	750
107	Dhar	Madhya Pradesh	315	250	315
108	Kawardha	Madhya Pradesh	250	250	7500
109	Khandwa	Madhya Pradesh	362	268	2520
110	Korea	Madhya Pradesh	328	250	5920
111	Mahasamund	Madhya Pradesh	375	250	2750
112	Satna	Madhya Pradesh	230	230	980
113	BETUL	Madhya Pradesh	85	85	1240
114	Damoh	Madhya Pradesh	64	60.7	365
115	Narmdapuram	Madhya Pradesh	1117	690.5	1117
116	Raipur	Chhattisgarh	1388	1424	21522
117	Bagalkot	Karnataka	408	620	1200
118	Raichur	Karnataka	128	269	1859
119	Thrissur	Karnataka	52	370	400
120	Bengaluru	Karnataka	38	28.41	2760
121	Ramanagara	Karnataka	53	78	105
122	Uttara Kannada	Karnataka	63	79	117
123	Kolar	Karnataka	250	250	2200
124	Udupi	Karnataka	375	395	1377
125	Belagavi - II	Karnataka	315	250	1012
126	Kalaburgi - I	Karnataka	40	388	637
127	Puttur	Karnataka	65	91	2951
128	Calicut	Kerala	500	202	8000
129	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala	500	500	1350
130	Kasaragod	Kerala	30	165	750
131	Wayanad	Kerala	205	388	570
132	Palakkad	Kerala	6	138	324
133	Kottayam	Kerala	190	250	120
134	Kollam	Kerala	11	160	425
135	Pathanamthitta	Kerala	64	64	622
136	Hyderabad	Telangana	136	492	2419
137	Karimnagar (Jammikunta)	Telangana	87	386	1327
138	Medak-II	Telangana	40	186	1018
139	Rajamundry	Andhra Pradesh	42	108	350

140	West Godavari	Andhra Pradesh	543	806	4942
141	Guntur	Andhra Pradesh	326	592	2245
142	Kurnool	Andhra Pradesh	224	850	2581
143	Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh	206	335	1410
144	Adilabad	Andhra Pradesh	110	250	825
145	Nalgonda	Andhra Pradesh	155	250	932
146	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	145	173.41	2810
147	Chennai	Tamil Nadu	7	65	4158
148	Trichy	Tamil Nadu	20	53	313
149	Cuddalore	Tamil Nadu	175	462	1238
150	Erode	Tamil Nadu	250	250	345
151	Ariyalur	Tamil Nadu	311	395	751
	Total		26920	29415.99	309738
