

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1336
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD DECEMBER 2024

DATA ON WOMEN SHGS UNDER NAMO DRONE DIDI PROGRAMME

1336. **SHRI APPALANAIDU KALISETTI:**

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

- (a) the breakdown of the number of Women Self Help Groups (SHGs) selected under the "Namo Drone Didi" program for drone provision, including the criteria used for the selection, State-wise and district-wise for Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the targets set for the financial year 2024-25 both at the State level and district-wise for Andhra Pradesh for the number of SHGs to be benefitted under the "Namo Drone Didi" scheme along with the number of beneficiaries expected to be impacted in each district for the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) the number of Women SHGs selected, the allocation of drone kits and the training provided under the scheme, district-wise breakdown for the State of Andhra Pradesh; and
- (d) the list of Lead Fertilizer Companies (LFCs) selected for implementing the "Namo Drone Didi" scheme including the role they will play in the procurement and distribution of drones, training and monitoring in the State of Andhra Pradesh?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री

(SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY)

(a): 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. Out of the total 15,000 drones targeted to be supplied under the scheme, the Lead Fertilizer Companies (LFCs) have procured the first 500 drones in 2023-24, using their internal resources and distributed to the selected SHGs, which include 96 drones supplied to SHGs of the State of Andhra Pradesh. As per the information provided by the Department of Agriculture, Government of Andhra Pradesh, the cluster of villages having mono crop areas with more pesticide consumption were selected for distribution of these 96 drones. The district-wise number of SHGs provided with drones by the LFCs in 2023-24 in the State of Andhra Pradesh is given in Annexure-I.

(b): The Committee at State level with members drawn from Department of Agriculture/Agricultural Engineering of the State, Rural Development, State Mission Directorate of Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), State Cooperative Department, Lead Banks/ National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), representatives of Lead Fertilizer Company (LFC) nominated for the state, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/State Agricultural Universities (SAUs)/Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) is responsible for selection of appropriate clusters for drone usage, selection of the progressive women SHGs under DAY - NRLM in the States in the identified clusters for providing drones, selection of members of the women SHGs for drone pilot and drone assistant training, assessment of district-wise drone usage, identification of existing gap, availability and future requirements of drone usage, providing/ensuring business to selected Women SHGs in coordination with the LFCs and Pesticide companies etc. During the financial year 2024-25, the target is to distribute drones to 3090 SHGs in the first phase out of which 90 SHGs are from the State of Andhra Pradesh. As per the information provided by the Department of Agriculture, Government of Andhra Pradesh, the details of district-wise number of SHGs allocated for distribution of drones in first phase of 2024-25 is given in Annexure-II.

(c): The members of SHGs selected for providing drones in 2023-24 in the State of Andhra Pradesh were provided training of 9-12 days duration. The drones that are targeted to be provided during first phase of 2024-25 is to be supplied as a package which also include training for one of the members of the SHG for fifteen days. The training covers drone flying, understanding provisions of Drone Rules, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for nutrient and pesticide application, drone flying practice for agriculture purpose and minor repair & maintenance of drones. The other member/ family member of the selected SHG with inclination to take up repairs of electrical goods, fitting and mechanical works is to be selected by the State Level Committee and trained as drone assistant for 5 days.

(d): Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) is nominated as Lead Fertilizer Company (LFC) for the State of Andhra Pradesh. IFFCO as an implementing agency, is to work in close coordination with the State Level Committee. IFFCO is responsible for procurement of drones in a fair and transparent in accordance with relevant General Financial Rules. It is also to act as a bridge between drone supplier companies and Cluster Level Federations (CLF) of SHGs for operations and maintenance of drones and promote use of Nano fertilizers by the drones. LFCs are to facilitate training and awareness of SHGs/Farmers.

Annexure-I

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-II

District-wise Number of SHGs allocated for distribution of drones in first phase of 2024-25 in the State of Andhra Pradesh

S. No.	District	No. of SHGs
1.	Srikakulam	6
2.	Parvatipuram Manyam	15
3.	Vizianagaram	15
4.	Kakinada	20
5.	Krishna	9
6.	Guntur	16
7.	Chittoor	9
	Total	90
