

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2842**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2025

**SCHEMES TO PROMOTE SKILL DEVELOPMENT AMONG FARMERS**

2842. SHRI MANI A:

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

- (a) the details of schemes being implemented by the Government to promote skill development among farmers in agriculture and allied sectors;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to impart skill training to farmers engaged in allied sectors such as horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, and beekeeping;
- (c) the number of training programs conducted for these sectors during the last two years along with the number of farmers who have been trained;
- (d) the extent to which these initiatives have helped in enhancing agricultural productivity and farmer's income; and
- (e) whether there is any plan to introduce modern technology and innovations in these training programs and if so, the details thereof ?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) & (b) : The Government is implementing the following schemes aimed to promote skill development among farmers in agriculture and allied sectors.

A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms' popularly known as Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) is implemented across the country by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare. The scheme promotes decentralized farmer-friendly Extension system in the country with an objective to support State Government's efforts to revitalize the extension system and making available the latest agricultural technologies and good agricultural practices in different thematic areas of agriculture and allied areas to farmers, farm women and youth, through various interventions like Farmers Training, Demonstrations, Exposure Visits, Kisan Melas etc. Presently, the scheme is being implemented in 739 districts of 28 States & 5 UTs in the country.

The Government is implementing Skill Training of Rural Youth (STRY) with the objective to impart short term skill training (7 days duration) to rural youths and farmers in agriculture and allied sectors for upgradation of their knowledge and skills and promote wage/self employment in rural areas. The component aims at providing short duration skill based training programs to rural youths and farmers on agri-based vocational areas for creating a pool of skilled manpower. Recently, the STRY programme has been subsumed under ATMA cafeteria.

The Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is implementing 'Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization' (SMAM). For implementation of this scheme, four Farm

Machinery Training & Testing Institutes (FMTTIs) located at Budni (Madhya Pradesh), Hissar (Haryana), Geraldine (Andhra Pradesh), and Biswanath Chariali (Assam), are engaged for imparting skill development training courses to different categories of beneficiaries like farmers, technicians, under graduate engineers, entrepreneurs on operation, repair and maintenance, energy conservation and management of agricultural equipment's.

Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), an umbrella scheme of Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, is implemented for ensuring holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors. There is provision for allowing the states to choose their own agriculture and allied sector development activities including training programmes as per the district/state agriculture plan.

The Government is implementing skill development programmes through Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in different States of the Country to serve as single window agricultural knowledge, resource and capacity development centres with mandate of technology assessment and demonstration for its use and capacity building. As part of its activities, the KVKs are imparting training to the farmers, farmwomen and rural youths on different aspects of agriculture and allied sectors (Crop Production, Horticulture, Soil Health and Fertility Management, Livestock Production and Management, Home Science/Women empowerment, Agril. Engineering, Plant Protection, Fisheries, Production of Input at site, Agro forestry etc.) for their capacity building.

The Government has launched National Skill Development Mission under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) in July 2015, under which the DA&FW has been operationalizing skill training courses of minimum 200 hours duration for rural youth and farmers as per the approved Qualification Packs developed by Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) in the areas of agriculture and allied sectors. Recently, this programme has been subsumed under ATMA cafeteria.

(c) : The details of the rural youth trained under STRY programme are given below –

| Year             | 2022-23                         |                                 | 2023-24                         |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
|                  | No. of Programs conducted (No.) | No. of candidates trained (No.) | No. of Programs conducted (No.) | No. of candidates trained (No.) |
| Horticulture     | 121                             | 2338                            | 196                             | 4194                            |
| Animal Husbandry | 80                              | 1504                            | 85                              | 1702                            |
| Fisheries        | 27                              | 491                             | 27                              | 508                             |
| Beekeeping       | 38                              | 690                             | 42                              | 881                             |

The details of training programmes organized and farmers trained during the last two years by KVKs are as follows:

| Particulars      | No. of training programmes organized | No. of farmers trained |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Horticulture     | 15391                                | 458046                 |
| Animal husbandry | 10533                                | 318555                 |
| Fisheries        | 2666                                 | 74583                  |
| Beekeeping       | 1031                                 | 28453                  |

Under ATMA programme, 76,72,468 farmers were trained during the last two years(2022-23 & 2023-24) on various topics including the topics from Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Beekeeping.

(d): Trainings in skill development has empowered the farmer to use advanced technologies in farming and thereby increasing the income from on farm and off farm activities. Extension programmes have made discernible impact in yield increase of up to 20%, by adoption of diversified production system and new technologies. The use of certified seeds by farmers after extension programme interventions has increased from 1% to 16% as per third party evaluation study conducted by Agriculture Finance Corporation Ltd.

(e): Skill training programs include training in modern technology and innovations like use of drip and sprinkler systems, Drone technology, use of Digital platforms, etc.

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