

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2859
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH MARCH, 2025

ESTABLISHMENT OF AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY IN ODISHA

2859. SHRI PRADEEP PUROHIT:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to establish an Agriculture University in Western Odisha, considering the region's significant paddy production and the fact that 70% of the population depends on farming;
- (b) whether the Government is considering to establish the proposed Agricultural University at Bargarh district which is centrally located and shares borders with several districts like Nuapada, Kalahandi, Bolangir, Sambalpur, Jharsuguda, Deogarh, Sonapur, Sundargarh and even the State of Chhattisgarh;
- (c) the details of steps which have been taken to promote agricultural research, modern farming techniques and farmer training programmes in Western Odisha; and
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any feasibility study or sought proposals from the State Government of Odisha regarding the establishment of an Agriculture University in this region and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): At present, there is no such proposal to establish an Agriculture University in Western Odisha.

(c): In Odisha, following 10 Public funded Institutions are there to promote Agriculture Research, Modern Farming Techniques and imparting farmers training:

1. Odisha University of Agriculture & Technology (OUAT), Bhubaneswar
2. ICAR-Central Institute of Women in Agriculture (CIWA), Bhubaneswar
3. ICAR-Central Institute of Foot & Mouth Disease, Arugul, Bhubaneswar
4. ICAR-National Rice Research Institute, Cuttack
5. ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Kausalyaganga, Bhubaneswar

6. ICAR-Indian Institute of Water Management, Chandrashekharpur, Bhubaneswar
7. ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute Regional Station, Bhubaneswar
8. ICAR-Directorate of Poultry Research (DPR) Regional Station, Baramunda, Bhubaneswar
9. ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), Regional Station, Cuttack
10. Central Research Institute for Jute & Allied Fibres (CRIJAF)-Sisal Research Station, Bamra, Sambalpur

Besides, the Government has also established 33 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in Odisha for promotion of new technologies of agriculture and allied sectors through technology assessment, demonstration and capacity development among the extension functionaries of state governments and farmers. The activities of KVKs include on-farm testing to identify the location specificity to technology under various farming systems; frontline demonstration to establish the production potential of improved agricultural technologies on the farmers' fields; capacity development of extension functionaries and farmers for knowledge and skill up gradation; and production of quality seeds, planting materials and other technology inputs for availability to the farmers. In order to develop awareness of improved agricultural technology among the farmers, a large number of extension activities are taken up by the KVKs.

(d): At present, there is no proposal in Central Government to establish an Agricultural University in Odisha.
