

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3804
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12TH AUGUST, 2025

IMPLEMENTATION OF NAMO DRONE DIDI SCHEME

3804. SHRI SHRIRANG APPA CHANDU BARNE:
SHRI BAJRANG MANOHAR SONWANE:
SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE:
SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH ALIAS PAVAN RAJENIMBALKAR:
SMT. BHARTI PARDHI:

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

- (a) the salient features of "Namo Drone Didi" and the policy of the Government on it;
- (b) the number of women self-help-groups who have Drones under the "Namo Drone Didi" scheme, especially in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra;
- (c) the current numbers thereof, State-wise and district-wise, particularly Shirdi-Ahmednagar Lok Sabha constituency and aspirational districts;
- (d) whether "Namo Drone Didi" is proposed to be integrated with other relevant schemes to maximize its impact on rural livelihoods and agricultural productivity;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether coordination has been made among the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Rural Development and Department of Fertilizers for effective implementation of the said scheme;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) the increase in average income likely to occur as a result of the said integration?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): 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 major objectives of the scheme is to promote advance technology in agriculture for improved efficiency, enhanced crop yield & reduced cost of operation and to empower SHGs as drone service providers for increasing their income and providing livelihood support to them. Under this scheme, Central Financial Assistance (CFA) @ 80% of the cost of drone package up to a maximum of Rs. 8.00 lakhs is provided to the selected women SHGs. The drones are provided as a package, which include basic drone with spray assembly for spraying liquid fertilizers and pesticides, Drone carrying box, standard battery set, downward facing camera, dual-channel fast battery charger, battery charger hub, anemometer, pH meter and 1 year onsite warranty on all items. The package also includes 04 spare battery sets, one spare propeller set (each set contains 6 propellers), nozzle set, dual channel fast battery charger, battery charger hub,

one year comprehensive insurance, 2 years annual maintenance contract and applicable GST. 15 days training for one of the members of SHGs and 5 days training to other member/family member of SHGs is provided as a part of drone package.

Lead Fertilizer Companies (LFCs) have distributed 1094 drones to drone didis of SHGs in 2023-24 using their internal resources. Out of these 1094 drones, 500 drones have been distributed under the Namo Drone Didi Scheme for providing rental services to farmers for spraying Nano fertilizers. As per the information provided by the State Governments of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, 47 and 89 drones respectively have been distributed by the LFCs in the State of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. The district-wise details of the Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh States are placed at Annexure-I and Annexure-II, respectively.

(d) & (e): The Namo Drone Didi Scheme specifically targets SHGs promoted under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM). SHGs can access loans from Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) with 3 percent interest subvention. Financial assistance for the purchase of multi-utility machines is provided under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM), which are also used for drone transport.

(f) & (g): The Empowered Committee (EC) of the scheme consist of Secretaries of the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW), Department of Rural Development (DoRD), Department of Fertilizers (DoF), Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) and Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoW&CD), which have all the powers to decide/modify scheme design during course of scheme implementation. EC is also the formulation body giving overall direction and guidance to scheme, monitor and review its progress and performance. The Implementation & Monitoring Committee with the members from all these line Departments/Ministries is responsible for effective planning, implementation and monitoring of the scheme and provide overall advice and guidance to all technical matters related to the implementation of the scheme. The Committee at State level with members drawn from Department of Agriculture/Agricultural Engineering of the State, Rural Development, State Mission Directorate of DAY-NRLM, State Cooperative Department, Lead Banks/ National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), representatives of 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.

(h): The study conducted by Agricultural Development and Rural Transformation Centre (ADRTC), Bangalore indicate that the drones provided by the LFCs to the SHGs has expanded their niche to modern agricultural practices through drone technology, enhancing their efficiency and productivity. Overall, the adoption of drones has diversified SHG activities, improved agricultural practices, and increased income opportunities for women in rural communities.

District-wise number of women SHGs in Maharashtra who have been provided drones by
the Lead Fertilizer Companies

S. No.	Name of District of Maharashtra State	No. of SHGs provided with the Drones by LFCs
1.	Ahmednagar	3
2.	Akola	2
3.	Amravati	1
4.	Beed	3
5.	Bhandara	1
6.	Buldhana	1
7.	Chandrapur	1
8.	Chatrapati Sambhaji Nagar	1
9.	Dharashiv	1
10.	Dhule	2
11.	Gadchiroli	1
12.	Hingoli	1
13.	Jalgaon	1
14.	Jalna	2
15.	Kolhapur	2
16.	Latur	1
17.	Nandurbar	1
18.	Nashik	3
19.	Osmanabad	2
20.	Palghar	1
21.	Parbhani	2
22.	Pune	3
23.	Raigad	1
24.	Sangli	3
25.	Satara	3
26.	Sindhudurg	1
27.	Solapur	1
28.	Wardha	1
29.	Washim	1
	Total	47

District-wise number of women SHGs in Madhya Pradesh who have been provided drones
by the Lead Fertilizer Companies

S. No.	Name of District of Madhya Pradesh State	No. of SHGs provided with the Drones by LFCs
1.	Agar malwa	2
2.	Alirajpur	1
3.	Balaghat	1
4.	Barwani	1
5.	Betul	1
6.	Bhind	2
7.	Bhopal	1
8.	Burhanpur	1
9.	Chattarpur	1
10.	Chhindwara	2
11.	Damoh	1
12.	Datia	2
13.	Dewas	2
14.	Dhar	2
15.	Dindori	1
16.	Guna	1
17.	Gwalior	6
18.	Indore	2
19.	Jabalpur	1
20.	Jhabua	1
21.	Katni	3
22.	Khandwa	4
23.	Mandla	3
24.	Morena	3
25.	Narmadapuram	2
26.	Narsinghpur	1
27.	Panna	1
28.	Raisen	7
29.	Rajgarh	3
30.	Ratlam	4
31.	Rewa	2
32.	Sagar	5
33.	Satna	5
34.	Sehore	3
35.	Seoni	2
36.	Shajapur	1
37.	Sheopur	1
38.	Shivpuri	1
39.	Sidhi	1
40.	Ujjain	3
41.	Vidisha	2
	Total	89
