

**SMART AGRO TEXTILE CENTRES**

1809. DR. RAJKUMAR SANGWAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES वस्त्र मंत्री  
be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any specific scheme/programme has been launched for increasing agriculture productivity, crop protection water conservation and promoting the use of agro-textiles like shed net, mulch fabric, crop-cover, anti-insect net in order to increase the income of the farmers;
- (b) if so, the number of 'Smart Agro-Textile centres' set up so far and their objectives, cost and present status along with the district-wise details thereof including Baghpat district of Uttar Pradesh; and
- (c) the number of farmers trained or provided direct benefits so far through these centres and programmes alongwith the district-wise details including Baghpat district of Uttar Pradesh?

उत्तर

ANSWER

वस्त्र राज्य मंत्री (श्री पबित्र मार्घेरिता)  
THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES  
(SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA)

**(a):** In order to focus on research and innovation, the Ministry of Textile launched the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) in the year 2020 with a fund outlay of Rs. 1,480 crore. The Mission not only focuses on research & innovation in the field of specialty fibers but also in different segments of technical textiles including agro textiles. Under the Mission, a total of 15 research projects have been approved in the field of agro textiles and its applications. Further, Government bodies such as Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) under the Department of Science & Technology and Indian Council of Agricultural Research-Central Institute for Cotton Research (ICAR-CICR) under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education are implementing various projects for agriculture productivity, crop protection and water conservation across the country.

**(b) & (c):** Under NTTM, one Climate-Smart Agro-Textile Demonstration Centre has been approved at a cost of Rs. 3.75 crore in December, 2024 at Navsari, Gujarat to promote innovative and sustainable agro-textile applications for the agriculture sector through live demonstrations, training for farmers, and awareness programmes to enhance productivity, reduce costs, improve climate resilience, and encourage sustainable practices. This Demo Centre is being operated by the Synthetic & Art Silk Mills' Research Association (SASMIRA). A total of 745 farmers have been trained in the Climate-Smart Agro-Textile Demonstration Centre at Navsari, Gujarat.

\*\*\*\*\*