

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1812
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10th February, 2026

Agricultural Research in Bihar

1812. Shri Abhay Kumar Sharma:

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

- (a) whether the priority has been accorded to sustainable agriculture, productivity enhancement and research in the State of Bihar under the Purvodaya Scheme announced for Eastern India;
- (b) if so, the amount allocated and spent for Bihar under the said Scheme since 2023 and the concrete outcomes achieved therefrom;
- (c) whether the Government acknowledges that the outcomes of agricultural research in Bihar are not effectively reaching farmers; and
- (d) whether the Government has carried out any separate assessment of research and extension services under the Purvodaya Scheme in the Aurangabad Parliamentary Constituency?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR)

(a): Government is implementing National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), according priority to sustainable agriculture practices and productivity enhancement across the country including the State of Bihar.

(b): Several schemes have been initiated under NMSA, to promote sustainable agriculture practices in the State of Bihar. Per Drop More Crop scheme was implemented from 2015-16 to increase water use efficiency at the farm level through micro irrigation technologies i.e. drip and sprinkler irrigation. Till date, Rs 233.75 crore has been released and 35496 ha have been covered under PDMC in the State. Rainfed Area Development was initiated in 2014-15 which focuses on Integrated Farming System for enhancing productivity and minimizing risks associated with climatic variability. Till date, Rs 2024.74 lakh has been released and an area of 3519 ha covered in the State. Soil Health Card (SHC) and Soil Health Management (SHM), introduced in the year 2014-15 to promote balanced use of fertilizers. Till date, Rs 8440.87 lakhs have been released and 15653800 number of Soil Health Card have been distributed in the State. National Horticulture Mission (NHM) was implemented in Bihar since 2005-06. From April, 2014 onwards, NHM has been subsumed under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic growth of the horticulture sector. Till date, 34177 ha have been covered under horticulture crops in the State. Under National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) 400 clusters have been formed in Bihar, registering 49,855 Farmers, and covering an area of 20,000 hectares. As on 31.12.2025, an area of 31,783.27 hectares has been brought under organic farming in Bihar under the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), benefiting 43,208 farmers. Since 2015-16, a total Central share of ₹7,244.08 lakh has been released to the State of Bihar under the PKVY scheme. Further, during the year 2025-26, an allocation of ₹3,419.00 lakh was made to Bihar under PKVY, out of which a Central share of ₹1,710.00 lakh has been released as on 31.12.2025.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research –Research Complex for Eastern Region (ICAR-RCER) and its Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK), Buxar is undertaking extension and outreach activities for strengthening research–farmer linkages in many districts of Bihar (Buxar, Gaya, Aurangabad, Jamui, samastipur etc.). The major outreach and extension activities undertaken during the last three years include conduct of Cluster Frontline Demonstration, Frontline Demonstration, field days, Kisan Gosthis/Melas, and awareness and demonstration programmes, which covered 9,250, 6,550 and 7,650 beneficiaries during the years 2023, 2024 and 2025, respectively. A total of 268 training programmes were organised for farmers through KVK Buxar, benefiting more than 7,800 farmers during the last three years. In addition, programmes such as demonstrations of released varieties of rice, pulses and other crops, along with activities under various All India Coordinated Research Project including Goat, Integrated Farming Systems (IFS) and Crop Diversification, covered about 7,500 farmers annually. The Institute also produced 50.0 tonnes of quality seed of cereals and pulses, which was made available to farmers through different channels. Overall, ICAR-RCER, Patna and its KVK Buxar together reached about 81,950 farmers in the State of Bihar during the last three years for dissemination of improved agricultural technologies. ICAR has been actively engaged in bridging the gap between agricultural research and farmers through large-scale, data-driven extension and outreach efforts in Bihar.

(c) & (d): Government through ICAR has established 44 KVKs in Bihar for dissemination of outcomes of agricultural research among farmers of the state through technology assessment, demonstration and capacity development among the extension functionaries of state governments and farmers. During 2024-25, these KVKs organized 23,181 demonstrations on improved agricultural technologies. In addition, the KVKs trained 1.73 lakh farmers/farm women/rural youth/extension personnel through training programmes and created awareness among 13.09 lakh stakeholders on various technologies related to agriculture and allied sectors through different extension activities. To promote the adoption of improved crop varieties, these KVKs produced 27837.95 quintals of quality seed of field crops and 24.86 lakh planting materials of horticultural crops.
