

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1587**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03/05/2016

**NEW SCIENTIFIC TECHNIQUES FOR  
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION**

1587. COL. SONARAM CHOUDHARY:

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

- (a) the new research carried out by the agriculture scientists to increase the production of quality agricultural produce in the country and the mechanism put in place in this regard;
- (b) the details of the assistance provided by the Government to various State Governments to encourage the farmers to adopt new scientific techniques for quality agricultural production; and
- (c) whether the Government is taking/proposes to take any concrete steps to provide training to the farmers at all Krishi Vigyan Kendras about the high yielding seeds, fertilizer and new technique?

**A N S W E R**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

**(SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA)**

(a) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) focuses at harnessing conventional and modern scientific knowledge, tools, and cutting-edge science for development of improved crop varieties/hybrids suited to diverse agro-ecologies situations, climate smart management and protection technology by promoting excellence in basic, strategic and anticipatory research. Further, seed technology research and production of breeder seed of hybrids/varieties is also an important programme. Adoption of modern technologies such as abiotic stress tolerant crop varieties *in situ* moisture conservation, crop diversification, integrated farming system and contingent crop planning to increase the production of agricultural produce in the country.

The ICAR research institutes have taken the basic and strategic research programmes related to crop/animal/fruit/fish improvement and development of production and protection technologies to form a base for applied research. The information so developed is used by respective All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) and All India Network Projects (AINPs) being carried out in the State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) to develop location specific varieties/breeds and technologies as per the agro ecological needs for enhancing the production and productivity.

Technologies thus developed are disseminated through KrishiVigyan Kendras (KVKs), SAUs and State Government Extension agencies.

(b) The details are given in **Annexure**.

(c) To update the knowledge and skills of farmers and farm women on various technologies, KVKs conduct various training programmes as one of its activity. During the year 2015-16, a total of 41490 training courses were organized on various technologies which benefited 11.74 lakh farmers and farm women. Most of these courses were on productivity enhancement of field crops, horticultural crops, empowerment of rural women, plant protection, livestock production and management, soil health and fertility management, farm machinery tools and implements, and capacity building and group dynamics, fisheries and agro-forestry. The participants included 2.54 lakh farm-women in the crop production training. Besides, 7112 skill-oriented training courses were organized for 1.75 lakh rural youth, including 61008 young women during the year. These courses were on integrated farming, mushroom production, value-addition, dairy farming, seed production, vermin-culture, nursery management of horticulture crops, bee-keeping, protected cultivation of vegetables, repair and maintenance of farm machinery implements, sheep and goat rearing, poultry production, production of organic inputs and small-scale processing. In addition, during the last year, KVKs have produced 1.96 lakh q seeds of improved varieties of cereals, oilseeds, pulses, commercial crops, vegetables, flowers, fruits, spices, fodder, forest species, medicinal plants and fibre crops and provided to 3.28 lakh farmers.

\*\*\*\*\*

**SCHEMES FOR ADOPTION OF NEW SCIENTIFIC TECHNIQUES FOR QUALITY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION**

The implementation of National Mission of Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET) has started with effect from 01.04.2014. Sub-Mission on Agricultural Extension (SMAE) is one of the four Sub-Missions under the NMAET. The common threats running across all four sub-missions of NMAET are Extension and Technology. These are inextricably linked to each other at the field level from farmers perspective.

A multi-tired extension strategy with a blend of following extension and out-reach initiatives is being followed under the Sub-Missions on Agricultural Extension (SAME) so as to empower farmers with the latest knowledge and information in agriculture and allied sectors.

- (i) **Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms** – Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) scheme has now been extended to cover 652 Rural Districts of 29 States and 3 UTs across the country. Various activities supported under this initiative for educating and creating awareness amongst farmers including trainings, exposure visits, demonstrations, study tours etc. Since inception 3.5 crore farmers have been benefited through various farmer oriented activities.
- (ii) **Mass-Media support to Agricultural Extension and Focussed Publicity Campaigns** have also been given a fillip. The Audio and Video Spots and Success stories are being aired through All-India Radio, Doordarshan and Private Channels operating at the National and Regional level.
- (iii) **Kisan Call Centres** – In yet another initiative, agriculture related information is provided to the farmers through Kisan Call Centres (KCCs) having toll free telephone lines assessable through all mobile phones and landlines of all telecom networks including private service providers.
- (iv) **Information dissemination through Agri Fairs** – Agriculture exhibitions are an excellent mechanism for showcasing latest technological advancements and dissemination of information to the farming community and also for promoting business opportunities in agriculture and allied sectors. The Ministry is promoting/organizing agriculture fairs at National and Regional levels.
- (v) **Kissan SMS Portal** – The Nation-wide SMS portal for farmers is working since July, 2013 that enabled all Departments, Offices and Organizations of Government of India and State Governments (down to the Block level) to send information, provide services and given advisories to farmers in their local languages in respect to their location and for preference of crops/ agricultural practices, market prices, weather reports, soil test reports etc.

Besides above, support to different institutions at National and Regional level for execution, review and monitoring of various extension initiatives and to build capacities and capabilities of senior and middle level extension functionaries across the country, were also provided.

\*\*\*\*\*