

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5143

ANSWERED ON:27.04.2010

FUNCTIONING OF ATMA

Yadav Shri Hukamdeo Narayan

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Chairman of the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) is the concerned District Collector who is engaged in other works and unable to pay full attention to ATMA;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to nominate any agricultural expert as the Chairman of ATMA for its smooth functioning;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Project Director of ATMA is nominated by the District Collector;
- (e) if so, whether the Government proposes to make provision for appointment of Project Manager by the Vice-Chancellor of Agricultural University from amongst the agricultural scientists;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the work of agricultural expansion, training and management by ensuring coordination between ATMA and Krishi Vigyan Kendras?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): Yes, Madam. As per the 10th Plan Operational Guidelines of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms", the Chairman of ATMA Governing Board (GB) is District Collector and Vice Chairman is Chief Executive Officer/ Chief Development Officer. Some States are, however, following a different structure as explained below.

Name of the State Chairman ATMA GB

Karnataka Chief Executive Officer, Zila Parishad  
Gujarat District Development Officer  
Delhi Deputy Development Commissioner  
Goa Director of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Sciences

(b): No, Madam. The ATMA GB already has experts from agriculture and allied sectors including those from the Zonal Research Stations (ZRSs) and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs). Moreover, for planning & execution of day-to-day activities, ATMA Management Committee consisting of district heads of all agriculture and allied departments (including research) is in place in all ATMA districts.

(c): Not applicable.

(d): No, Madam. The Guidelines do not envisage any such nomination.

(e & f): Not applicable. However, as stated in response to part (b) above, Zonal Research Stations & Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) are already represented on Governing Board of ATMA.

(g) The Government has revised ATMA Scheme which provides for active involvement of Research System/ Research Agencies at different level of implementation through following inbuilt provisions:-

# Active involvement of KVKs in ATMA activities viz-

# Strategic Research & Extension Plan (SREP) preparation;

# Assessment, refinement & validation of local technologies;

# Skill upgradation and capacity building of district functionaries &

# Participation in local events viz. kisan goshties, field days etc.

# Representatives of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) & Zonal Research Stations (ZRSs) are members of ATMA GB and ATMA

Management Committee at district level.

# Vice Chancellor(s) of State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) are member(s) of Inter Departmental Working Group (IDWG) at state level;

# DDG (Extn.), ICAR is a member of the Policy Committee at DAC;

Besides this , under the Revised Scheme one SAU/ KVK expert is Incharge of an ATMA District to render technical support through phone/ SMS/ Email with funding support provided under the scheme. Also, the KVKs are to provide technical back- stopping to the staff of Block Technology Team and Subject Matter Specialists at Block Level.