

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1046
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2011
SKILL DEVELOPMENT FOR FARMERS
Vinay Kumar Alias Vinnu Shri

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any action plan for the skill development and training of small and marginal farmers is under consideration of the Government with a view to improve their economic condition and boost the agricultural production;
- (b) if so, the details of the various schemes formulated/implemented in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the time by which such schemes are likely to be considered and implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI ARUN YADAV)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): The Government is implementing various Schemes with training and capacity building of farmers as one of the components. 'Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms (ATMA)' Scheme provides support for organizing trainings to farmers at National, State and District level. The scheme also provides for setting up of Farm Schools where progressive farmers with the help of subject matter experts provide trainings to other farmers at six critical stages of the crop cycle. At least, 50% beneficiaries under ATMA Scheme have to be small & marginal farmers.

Besides this, skill development of farmers (including small and marginal farmers) under Schemes as follows:-

National Food Security Mission (NFSM): Trainings of farmers are organized through Farmer Field Schools (FFS).

National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility: Trainings on balanced use of fertilizers are being provided.

Watershed Development Programmes: Under National Watershed Development Project for Rain-fed Areas (NWDPR), Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP & FPR) and Water-shed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA), trainings on agricultural production, in-situ moisture conservation, on farm water management, water use efficiency etc. are provided to the farmers.

Farm Mechanization Training and Testing Institutes (FMTTI): Trainings are imparted on operation, maintenance and repair of small tools/ equipments.

Integrated Development of Tree Borne Oilseeds Scheme: Farmers' trainings are organized for quality seed collection, nursery raising, plantation and production of Tree Borne Oilseeds (TBOs).

Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilitates for Production & Distribution of Quality Seed: Training programmes are organized for farmers on fields to upgrade the quality of farmer-saved seeds in association with Seed Village Programme.

National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Horticulture Mission for North Eastern Hills (HMNEs): Need based trainings are provided to small and marginal farmers.

(c): Not applicable.