

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1257

ANSWERED ON:29.11.2011

AGRICULTURAL TRAINING

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government provides training to graduates in agriculture to enable them to establish agriculture clinics and agriculture business in the country;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the details of training institutes the Government proposes to set up during the 11th Five Year Plan and the number out of them, set up so far, State-wise;
- (d) the number of persons benefited by such institutes during the 11th Plan period so far in the country, State-wise; and
- (e) the details of the funds allocated and utilised during the said period by each of such centres?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): With a view to harness the potential of unemployed agriculture graduates in the country, a Central Sector Scheme "Establishment of Agri-clinics and Agri-Business Centres (ACABC)" has been under implementation since April 2002. The agri-preneurs who establish their agri ventures after undergoing training under the Scheme will supplement the efforts of public extension by necessarily providing extension and other services to farmers. Since inception till 24.11.2011, a total of 26921 candidates have been trained under the Scheme out of which 9569 of them have established their agri ventures all over the country.

Salient features of the scheme:

(i) The National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad an apex level autonomous institute under Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) coordinates the training component. Two months training is imparted to the eligible selected candidates through Nodal Training Institutes identified across the country under the Scheme. The Nodal Training Institutes also provide one- year handholding support to trained candidates in establishing their ventures.

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is responsible for monitoring the credit support to Agri-clinics and flow of credit linked back ended subsidy through banks. The scheme has a provision of credit linked back-ended subsidy @ 44% in respect of women, SC/ST and all categories of candidates from North-Eastern and Hill States and 36% in respect of other candidates

(c): There is no specific target to set up training institutes during XIth Five Year Plan. However, the number of NTIs identified under ACABC Scheme in different States/UTs during 11th Plan is given at Annexure-I.

(d): During XIth Plan, 62 Nodal Training Institutes trained a total of 13691 candidates and the state-wise breakup is available at Annexure-I.

(e): Funds released and utilized by each of such NTIs during XIth Plan is available at Annexure-II.