GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3088 ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011 AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION CENTRES Premajibhai Dr. Solanki Kiritbhai

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Agriculture Technology Information Centres set up in Gujarat State;

(b) the details of expenditure incurred by the Government for the above purpose during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide training to farmers about the new technology?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As part of Innovations in Technology Dissemination (ITD) component of National Agricultural Technology Project, one-time grant was sanctioned for establishment of one Agricultural Technology Information Centres (ATIC) at Gujarat Agricultural University (GAU) at Sardar Krushinagar, Dantiwada, Gujarat (presently Sardar Krushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University). Subsequently, three ATICs, one each by Anand Agricultural University, Anand; Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari and Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh were established by respective Universities on their own without any financial assistance from the ICAR.

(c) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms" popularly known as Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) scheme is under implementation in 604 districts of 28 states and 3 UTs of the country, with an objective to support State Governments efforts of revitalization of the extension system and making available the latest agriculture and allied technologies in different agro-climatic conditions through extension activities such as farmers training, demonstrations, exposure visits, Kisan Melas, mobilization of farmers groups and setting up of Farm Schools. Besides there are Extension/Transfer of Technology Divisions in all ICAR institutes and Agriculture Universities. ICAR has also setup a network of 600 Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the country to assess, refine and demonstrate agricultural technologies; to provide training to farmers; and to make them aware on latest agricultural technologies through extension programmes.