GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5161 ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012 KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRAS Rama Devi Smt. ;Tudu Shri Laxman

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently reviewed the functioning of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the deficiencies identified in their functioning; and

(d) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken for the effective functioning of KVKs in the country?

Answer

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

(a) The functioning of Krishi Vigyan Kendras is reviewed every year by holding of Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meetings, Annual State and Zonal Workshops, Activity Specific Training-cum-Workshops, site visits by the Officers of Zonal Project Directorates, Directorates of Extension of Agricultural Universities and ICAR Headquarters; Annual National Conference, linkage and convergence meetings/discussions, besides review by Quinquennial Review Team (QRT).

(b) The outcome based on Review of activities undertaken during the last one year includes development and execution of 606 improved and need based annual action plans; compilation of 553 technology inventories, preparation of 39931 technology manuals, books, bulletins and extension literature in print and electronic form; development and organization of 529 programmes for capacity building and technology backstopping; 951 human resource development and knowledge empowerment; and sharing of innovative models and experiences during 128 workshop and conferences. Based on the outcome of last QRT report on KVKs, the ICAR has made provision for additional infrastructure facilities in selected KVKs and upgraded its eight Zonal Coordinating Units to the level of Zonal Project Directorates during the XI Plan.

(c) & (d): Shortage of staff, lesser allocation of funds, overloading of KVKs with many activities without any concomitant increase in resources (both financial and manpower), inadequate amount of allocations to the KVKs under the heads 'Contingencies' and 'Infrastructural facilities', are some of the deficiencies reported. The need for creation of 11 Zones, against the existing 8 Zones, for effective monitoring has also been pointed out in one of the recent reviews.

Allocations are made based on availability of funds, and competing demands and requirements.