

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3785
ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012
WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE
Singh Smt. Meena

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the schemes launched by the Government to promote participation of women in the field of agriculture;
- (b) whether the Krishi Vigyan Kendras have launched several awareness programmes to educate the women farmers in adoption of latest farm techniques in agricultural operations;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the participation of women in agriculture?

Answer

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

(a): The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is not implementing any specific programmes for women farmers. However, as per the directives of Planning Commission, from 2007-08 onwards, the States have been directed to ensure flow of funds to the tune of 30% for the benefit of women farmers under all the beneficiary oriented schemes.

The Department of Rural Development is implementing a programme Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojna (MKSP), which was announced in the budget of 2010- 11 as a sub - component of the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) to meet specific needs of women farmers and achieve socio-economic and technical empowerment of the rural women farmers, predominantly small and marginal farmers. The primary objective of the MKSP is to empower women in agriculture by making systematic investments to enhance their participation and productivity, as also create and sustain agriculture based livelihoods of rural women.

(b) & (c): The KVKs have not launched any scheme/ programme exclusively for promoting participation of women in the field of agriculture. However, the network of 630 KVKs in the country is undertaking the following activities for benefitting all farmers including women farmers:

- (i) Assessment and refinement of agricultural technologies.
 - (ii) On farm trials and front line demonstration in farmers field.
 - (iii) Analyzing soil, water, plant and manure sample and providing mobile agro advisory services to the farmers.
 - (iv) Training and creating awareness on improved agricultural technologies to farmers including women farmers and other stakeholders through extension services such as field days, group discussion, Kisan Goshtis, Kisan Melas, exhibitions, visits to farmers' field, exposure visits, plant /animal health camps, farm science clubs, etc.
- (d): The steps taken so far under different programmes of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation to increase participation of women have been listed in Annexure I.