

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:351  
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013  
SETTING UP OF AGRICLINICS  
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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the locations identified for the purpose, State-wise;
- (c) the main functions of these centres; and
- (d) the benefits likely to accrue to the farmers as a result of establishing these centres?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Government launched a Central Sector Scheme "Establishment of the Agri-clinics and Agri-business Centres (ACABC)" in April, 2002. The ACABC scheme has been under implementation to supplement efforts of public extension, support agricultural development and create gainful self-employment opportunities to unemployed youth with qualification in agriculture and allied sectors.

Since inception of the Scheme, 11675 agri-ventures have been established in the country till 31.1.2013.

State and activity-wise details of agri-ventures established under ACABC scheme are given at Annexure-I and II respectively. Location-wise details are given on the website [www.agriclinics.net](http://www.agriclinics.net).

(c) Apart from running agri-ventures in agriculture and allied areas, the agripreneurs trained under ACABC scheme are actively involved in providing advisory and extension services to the farmers on various technologies including soil health, cropping practices, plant protection, crop insurance, post-harvest technology, clinical services for animals, feed and fodder management, prices of various crops in the market etc.

(d) Agri-clinics and Agri-business Centres provide advisory and extension services by qualified and trained agriculture professionals at the doorstep of farmers. The services provided by these agripreneurs are expected to increase productivity and profitability of farmers.