

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1966  
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2013  
USE OF SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENTS IN AGRICULTURE  
Kumar Shri Vishwa Mohan

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to provide information to the farmers regarding new scientific research taking place in the agriculture sector;
- (b) whether the Government provides encouragement to the farmers for using scientific equipments for agricultural purposes;
- (c) whether the Government, besides subsidy also provides loans to the farmers, at cheaper rates for procuring these equipments; and
- (d) if so, the number of farmers benefited by the subsidy/loan in various States including Jharkhand and Bihar during the last two years and the current year?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) & (b): The steps taken for providing information to the farmers regarding new scientific research include setting up of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), Agricultural Technology Management Agencies(ATMAs), Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institutes (FMTTI), Kisan Call Centres(KCCs), Agri-Clinics and Agri- Business Centres (ACABC) of entrepreneurs and development of a SMS Portal. Besides, assistance to State Governments is provided for agricultural mechanization under various schemes of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, including Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Post Harvest Technology Management (PHTM).

The farmers are encouraged by different agencies for using farm machinery and equipments by involving them in conduct of on-farm trials and front-line demonstrations on their fields and by organising training programmes, various extension activities and information/advice through telephone calls, SMS portal and farm radio and TV programmes.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. Assistance in the form of subsidy at the rate of 25 to 50 percent of the cost with permissible ceiling limits is made available to the farmers to purchase agricultural equipment, including new technology agricultural equipments and machines under various schemes of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. Loans are available to the farmers for purchase of agricultural equipments and machines through the nationalized banks and other banks as per their prevailing rates and lending norms.

The subsidy schemes of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation are implemented through the State Governments. Subsidy to the farmers for purchase of agricultural machines is provided under RKVY, NFSM, NHM and PHTM schemes of the Department. The data on number of farmers benefitted is not maintained in the Department.