GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2752 ANSWERED ON:02.08.2016

Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institutes

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has established a number of Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institutes in the country and if so, the details thereof. State/UT-wise:
- (b) whether the Government has received requests from different States for establishment of such Institutes in their States and if so, the details thereof and the time by which these requests are likely to be considered;
- (c) whether the Government has developed several new farm techniques and employs them for diversification of agricultural crops and to boost farm production during the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof along with the schemes/programmes under which the latest indigenous and imported agricultural tools and equipment are being provided to the farmers:
- (d) the details of awareness campaign launched to educate the farmers through the electronic and the print media on the latest scientific farm methods in the country along with the funds allocated and utilized and the number of farmers benefited thereunder during the said period; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that the appropriate farm technology reaches the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): Yes, Madam. The Government has established four Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institutes in the country as under:

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- 1) Central Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institute, Budni, District Sehore (Madhya Pradesh)
- 2) Northern Region Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institute, Hisar (Haryana)
- 3) Southern Region Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institute, Garladinne, District Anantapur (Andhra Pradesh)
- 4) North Eastern Region Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institute, Biswanath Chariali, District -Sonitpur (Assam).
- (b): The proposals received from the Government of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh for establishment of Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institutes are under consideration in the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare and the action will be completed within next six months.
- (c): Development of farm technologies is an ongoing activity. Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal & its regional centres under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) are working for development of agricultural machines and equipment to cater to the requirement of various crops, commodities, agro-climatic regions and socio economic conditions of farmers. The list of farm implements developed for diversification of agricultural crops during the last three years and current year is attached as Annexure-I.

Financial assistance to the farmers for purchase of such equipments and machinery including the latest imported tools and equipment is provided under various schemes of the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare viz. Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP).

(d): Farmers' awareness programmes like Kisan Vani & Krishi Darshan are run through All India Radio/Doordarshán & also from all public & prominent Private TV channels. In addition to this, various print advertisements for the same purpose are published from time to time for the awareness of farmers. Farmer's awareness campaigns are done by various agencies mostly at the State level through diversified sources. Therefore, the exact countrywide data on the number of awareness campaigns, funds allocated/utilized and number of farmers benefitted from such campaigns is not maintained in the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare.

(e): The steps taken for dissemination of information on appropriate technologies to the farmers across the country include setting up of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and Agricultural Technology Management Agencies (ATMAs) at district level. In addition the farmers are provided information through focused Publicity Campaigns, Kisan Call Centres (KCCs), Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres (ACABC) of entrepreneurs, Agri Fairs and exhibitions, Kisan SMS Portal, DD Kisan TV Channel and Community Radio Stations. The Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institutes organize various training programmes on selection, operation, repair & maintenance of agricultural machines & equipments. Demonstrations of the modern agricultural machinery & equipment are also undertaken on farmer's fields. Farmers can also seek advice from Kisan Call Centre on Toll free No. 1800-180-1551.