

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:698
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2014
MODERN AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY
Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken various measures to extend the benefits of modern agricultural technology to the small and marginal farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the success achieved therein; and
- (c) the extent to which the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and other Agricultural Institutes/universities have been effective in equipping the farmers including the small and marginal farmers with adequate information and agriculture expansion schemes?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): Most of the Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes implemented by the Government focus on extending benefits of modern agricultural technology to small and marginal farmers either by way of having preferential norms of assistance for them or emphasize on certain percentage of allocation to be spent on them or earmark resources based on number of small and marginal farmers. A brief of ongoing initiatives which focus on providing information to farmers about improved agricultural technologies along with approaches followed thereunder are given at Annexure I. These extension efforts are then supplemented by robust delivery mechanism.

(c): Main extension system mandated for dissemination of technologies among farmers is operated by the State Governments. However, in order to assess, refine and demonstrate latest technologies in farmer's field, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has created a network of 638 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country. During the year 2013-14, the KVKs have conducted as many as 33791 On- farm trials and 1.71 lakh Frontline Demonstrations on farmers field and updated the knowledge and skills of 16.06 lakh farmers.