

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:760

ANSWERED ON:27.11.2014

MAHILA KISAN SASHAKTIKARAN PARIYOJANA

Mahajan Smt. Poonam

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether MahilaKisanSashaktikaranPariyojana (MKSP) was launched by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the salient features and the benefits accrued to the beneficiaries; and
- (c) the financial and physical achievements under the scheme during each of the last three years, State/UT and year-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BIRENDER SINGH)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b)& (c) MahilaKisanSashaktikaranPariyojana (MKSP) is a sub – component of the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) which aims to meet the specific needs of women farmers and achieve socio-economic and technical empowerment of the rural women farmers, predominantly small and marginal farmers. The projects recommended by the State Governments are considered in the Ministry of Rural Development for approval. This Ministry provides funding support upto 75% (90% for North Eastern States) to the projects. Balance funds are contributed by the respective State Governments or any other donor agencies (national or international) in the form of grants or by the Project Implementing Agency. As of now, this Ministry has approved 58 projects from 14 States with the total Central Government share of Rs. 561.05 crore which are targeted to benefit about 24.61 lakhs women farmers during the project period.

There are two sub components under MKSP namely

- (i) Sustainable Agriculture and
- (ii) Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP). The specific objectives of both the components are as follows:

Specific objectives of Sustainable Agriculture component of MKSP are as under:

- (i) To enhance the productive participation of women in agriculture;
- (ii) To create sustainable agricultural livelihood opportunities for women in agriculture;
- (iii) To improve the skills and capabilities of women in agriculture to support farm and non-farm-based activities;
- (iv) To ensure food and nutrition security at the household and the community level;
- (v) To enable women to have better access to inputs and services of the government and other agencies;
- (vi) To enhance the managerial capacities of women in agriculture for better management of bio-diversity;
- (vii) To improve the capacities of women in agriculture to access the resources of other institutions and schemes within a convergence framework.

The key objectives of NTFP component of MKSP are as under:

- (i) To develop a sustainable model for livelihood promotion of NTFP collectors
- (ii) To ensure a better control of the institutions of the NTFP collectors over the NTFP value chain
- (iii) To promote regeneration of NTFP species to improve the bio diversity and enhanced productivity
- (iv) To build the capacity of the community in sustainable harvesting and post harvesting techniques to increase their income
- (v) To promote local value addition of NTFP to ensure higher returns

- (vi) To develop market linkages for NTFP
- (vii) To develop a pool of community resource persons to enable the community institutions to manage their activities
- (viii) To enable women to have better access to their entitlements and services of the government and other agencies
- (ix) To promote the use of ICT to improve the livelihoods opportunities of the NTFP collectors

With the above vision, MKSP is now being rolled out across various geographic pockets of India in partnership with Government and Non Government agencies. Within a span of 3 years of project period of MKSP, the key objective is to identify and stabilize best practices/models in livelihood promotion and create a pool of livelihood Community Resource Persons (CRPs) for scaling up. The benefits of the projects accrue to the beneficiaries during the project period of 3 years. The details of financial and physical progress are given in the Annexure.