

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1713**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> JULY, 2019

**PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURE**

1713. SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any new schemes are being introduced in order to provide subsidized essential tools in agriculture in Kerala, if so, the details thereof
- (b) the details of the agricultural classes and campaigns conducted by the Government in Kerala every year;
- (c) whether the Government has set up new projects to promote agriculture in Kerala; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): Agricultural tools and machinery are essential inputs for modern agriculture. It enhances productivity besides reducing human drudgery and cost of cultivation. It also helps in improving utilization efficiency of other inputs.

Taking into consideration the above, Department Of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers welfare (DAC&FW) has introduced a dedicated Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) w.e.f. 2014-15 for entire country including Kerala, under which financial assistance is provided for various types of Agricultural tools, implements and machinery used for tillage, sowing, planting, harvesting, reaping, threshing, plant protection, inter cultivation and residue management.

The farm mechanization component is also available under various schemes like Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

The details of State-wise funds released under SMAM, MIDH, NFSM and NMOOP to Kerala Government is enclosed as an Annexure-I.

The details of State-wise number of agricultural mechanization related projects sanctioned and cost of the projects under RKVY is enclosed at Annexure II.

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Kerala Government has also introduced Agro Service Centre and Service Delivery and Karshika Karmasena. Through Agro Service Centres at block level and Karshika Karma Sena at Panchayath level provision is given for supply of essential tools, agricultural implements and machinery to farmers groups for hiring out service requested from grass root level farmers.

(b): As per the information received from Government of Kerala

(i) 79 Practical training Classes of 15 days duration were conducted through Agro Service Centres at Block level in the field of operation, maintenance and upkeep of all relevant agricultural machinery such as tractor, power tiller, transplanter, reaper, combine harvester, etc during the year 2013 to 2018 .

(ii) 200 Practical training Classes of 15 days duration were conducted through Karshika Karma Sena at Grama Panchayath level in the field of operation, maintenance and upkeep of all relevant agricultural machinery such as tractor, power tiller, transplanter, reaper, etc during the year 2015 to 2018.

(iii) Capacity building programmes on advanced technologies in Agriculture sector such as Post Harvest Technology, Bio fertilizer, integrated pest management, scientific crop cultivation, post harvest management, agro processing, value addition, organic farming, hi-tech agriculture, farm mechanization and marketing is imparted to officers and farmers through eight regional training centres and one state level training institute i.e. SAMETI (State Agricultural Management and Extension Training Institute) of the Department of Agriculture, Government of Kerala during the year 2018. Total 3821 and 7174 officers and farmers respectively were trained at these training centers.

(c) & (d): The details of the new projects included in the Annual Plan for the year 2016-17 to 2018-19, as received from the State Government are given as Annexure III:

**Annexure : I**

**State-wise and year wise fund released to Kerala State in various scheme of DAC&FW for mechanization component during last three years.**

Year	Name of the Scheme(Rs.in crore)				
	SMAM	NFSM	MIDH	NMOOP	TOTAL
2016-17	1.0	0.129	6.01	-	7.139
2017-18	9.79	0.128	3.70	-	13.618
2018-19	10.37	0.031	3.86	-	14.261
<b>TOTAL</b>	21.16	0.288	13.57	-	35.08

SMAM : Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization

MIDH :Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture

NFSM : National Food Security Mission

NMOOP : National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm

RKVY : Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana.

<b>Annexure : II</b>			
<b>Total No. projects sanctioned and Cost of Projects in AGRICULTURE MECHANISATION under RKVY DURING (2014-15 to 2017-18) (Rs.in crore)</b>			
KERALA	2014-15	1	4.00
	2016-17	1	3.00
	2017-18	1	6.19

**(a) The details of the new projects included in the Annual Plan for the year 2016 -17 are given below:**

- (1) VAIGA- Value addition for Income generation in Agriculture exhibition cum business sessions of entrepreneurs involved in agro processing and value addition

**(b) The details of the new projects included in the Annual Plan for the year 2017-18 are given below:**

- (1) Biodiversity and local germplasm collection -20 Metric tons of seeds of local paddy varieties collected through Kerala State Seed Development Authority.
- (2) Seed bank set up in association with Kerala Agricultural University.
- (3) Development of fruits, flowers and medicinal plants - Support for development of indigenous varieties, export-oriented banana, formation of floriculture units
- (4) Special Agricultural Zone -15 Special Agriculture Zones (based on 5 crops, viz. Rice, Coconut, vegetables, banana, Flowers) & Tribal agriculture identified. DPR prepared for each zone. Area expansion, infrastructure development, processing and marketing facilities initiated.

**(c) The details of the new projects included in the Annual Plan for the year 2018-19 are given below:**

- i. (1) Kuttanad GAP (Good Agricultural practices) bio control of weeds, ecological engineering, adoption of GAP practices for paddy,
  - (2) GI certification obtained for products viz. Edayur Mulaku and Marayoor sarkara.
  - (3) Mobile app portals for e-marketing,
  - (4) Hon.Minister of Agriculture monthly phone in programme with farmers
  - (5)Formation of Kerala State Agricultural Mechanisation Mission - apex body for coordination of agro service centres, karshika karma senas
  - (6) Establishment of Agro machinery service centres.
  - (7) Formation of Quality control enforcement wing
  - (8) Karshaka Mithras' for marketing of homestead produce as a pilot project in Thrissur
- ii. **Development of Agriculture sector in Kuttanad** – This scheme is proposed for the Integrated development of Kuttanad area. An amount of Rs. 2000 Lakhs is earmarked for the development of Agriculture sector in Kuttanad. The main objective of the scheme is to provide sufficient infrastructure and also for risk management factors. The main component proposed is the risk management package for mitigation of problems of Kuttanad wet land ecosystem which could be utilized for

managing the risk associated with the changes /modifications in the cropping/farming system. It is also proposed for establishment of vertical axial flow pumps/submersible pumpsets for dewatering, replacing the conventional Petti and Para including construction of raised platform for installation.

- iii. **Arecanut Package** – Arecanut is one of the major plantation crops of Kerala, especially in northern districts. Arecanut sector is showing a declining trend both in terms of area and production. This is mainly due to incidence of diseases like Mahali (fruit rot) non-availability of good planting materials, etc. During 2019-20, an amount of Rs. 200 lakhs is set apart for the development of Arecanut sector, for area expansion, plant protection and other management practices.
- iv. **Rehabilitation and Rejuvenation of Coconut palms in Kerala as part of Coconut Development Council** – Coconut is a traditional as well as major crops of Kerala. But the productivity of Coconut palms is low in Kerala when compared to neighboring states. In order to bring visible changes in the present scenario, Government of Kerala has constituted the Coconut Development Council with the objective of expanding area and improving production and productivity of Coconut and overall upliftment of this sector. The council activities are planned with a 10 year vision from 2018-2028. In the 1st step an amount of Rs. 19 crores is set apart for this component under the scheme Coconut Development 2019-20. The basic activities proposed to be under taken is production and supply of good quality seedlings, replanting and under planting existing coconut plantations with these seedlings which will go a long way in improving production and productivity of coconut in the state.
- v. **Officer Automation and IT Infrastructure** – This scheme aims to implement e-office in Agriculture Department, an integrated solution for the organisational effectiveness by improving productivity, quality, resource management, turn-around time and increase transparency by replacing the old manual process with an electronic file system.
- vi. **Post harvest Management and value addition** – It has a very crucial road in improving the Kerala economy and the income of farmers from Agriculture sector. Establishment of cold chain facilities is an extended requirement for value addition and export of Agricultural commodities. It is proposed to conduct a study for establishment of cold chain facilities in the State. In order to attract youth in agriculture sector, it is decided to give incentives for startup projects in agriculture sector and for Agri business incubation.

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