

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY**  
**LOK SABHA**  
**ADMITTED/UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1206**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 14-12-2022**

**Biotech-Kisan Programme**

**1206. DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY:**

**SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:**

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Biotech-Kisan Programme that has been launched to empower farmers through technological solutions;
- (b) the details of the intended benefits and the support provided under the same; and
- (c) the details of other such measures being taken to provide for direct linkage between science laboratories and farms in the country?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF MINISTRY OF  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES  
(DR. JITENDER SINGH)**

**a)** Yes sir, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) is implementing a farmers-centric Mission Programme ‘Biotech-Krishi Innovation Science Application Network’ (Biotech-KISAN). The programme connects Indian farmers with best scientists and institutions. The aim of the programme is to work with small and marginal farmers for better agriculture productivity through scientific intervention and evolving best farming practices. The core activities of the programme are understanding the problems of the local farmer, scouting available technologies/solutions, demonstration and scale-up programmes, creation of strong Scientists-Farmers Interaction Platform; training programmes for the farmer and immersion programmes for scientists, communication through radio/TV and social media, thematic fellowship for selected farmers and special solution-driven

thematic fellowships to women farmers. The programme also promotes the development of bio-based agri-enterprises in rural areas. The Department has funded fifty one (51) Biotech-Kisan hubs out of which forty four (44) are operational. These hubs are located in 15 agro-climatic zones of the country and are conducting activities in 169 districts.

**b)** Yes sir, the intended benefits of the programme is to increase farmer's income by technological interventions and develop bio-based enterprises in rural areas. The programme has benefitted over four lakhs farmers (directly or indirectly) by increasing their agriculture output and income. Programme is also successful in developing 200 entrepreneurs in rural areas. The Department has till date provided support of Rs. 9554.146 lakhs to the programme.

**c)** Yes sir, the Ministries/Departments of Government of India are implementing various programmes for direct linkage between science laboratories and farmers in country. Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE)/Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is supporting 731 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and implementing programmes like Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG), Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) programme and farmer FIRST. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) laboratories CIMAP (Central Institute of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants) and National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow (NBRI) provides technical support and advice to farmers through training programmes and skill development programmes on various aspects of agriculture, science and technology. In addition to Biotech-Kisan, Department is also supporting farmers through its societal programme.