

Sl. No.	Location	State/UT Covered	Language
8.	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	Hindi
		Chhattisgarh	Hindi
9.	Pune	Maharashtra	Marathi
		Goa	Konkani
10.	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	Tamil
		Puducherry	Tamil
		Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Tamil
11.	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	Hindi
		Uttarakhand	Hindi
12.	Kolkata	West Bengal	Bengali
		Sikkim	Sikkimese
13.	Guwahati	Arunachal Pradesh	Adi
		Assam	Assamese
		Manipur	Manipuri
		Meghalaya	Khasi
		Mizoram	Mizo
		Nagaland	Nagamese
14.	Bhubaneswar	Tripura	Bengali
		Odisha	Oriya

Converting Pusa Agricultural Institute into a Central Agricultural University

†354. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:
SHRIMATI MISHA BHARTI:

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

(a) whether Government has formulated any action plan to convert Pusa Agricultural Institute into a Central Agricultural University;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of budget allocated for it and by when the implementation work would be started?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (c) There was/is no entity called Pusa Agricultural Institute. However, Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar has been converted into Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa *vide* Gazette Notification No. 32 dated 28.05.2016. The budget allocated for 2016-17 for the University is ₹ 57 crores.

Popularizing organic farming

355. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether organic farming in the country is limited to individual efforts only and Government is yet to come out with any comprehensive programme to popularize organic farming in various parts of the country despite the fact that use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides has been found to be hazardous for health;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the major steps Government has taken to promote and propagate the benefits of organic farming amongst the farmers and the incentives given for it, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) Government of India is promoting organic farming in country through the dedicated Scheme of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA).

Under PKVY Scheme, the assistance is provided to the farmers for cluster formation, mobilization of farmers, Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification and quality control, conversion of land to organic farming, establishment of on-farm input production units etc. Under this Scheme, an area of 2 lakh ha. is aimed to be covered under organic farming from 2015-16 to 2017-18. The pattern of assistance is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

Under Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER), the assistance is provided for cluster development, on/off farm input production, supply of seeds/planting materials, setting up of functional infrastructure, establishment of integrated processing unit, refrigerated transportation, pre-cooling/cold stores chamber, branding labeling and packaging, hiring of space, hand holdings, organic certification through third party, etc. Under this scheme, an area of 0.50 lakh ha. is aimed to be covered under organic farming in North Eastern Region