

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 655
ANSWERED ON 08/12/2023

STARTUPS IN AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES

655. MS. KAVITA PATIDAR:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI KAILASH SONI:

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

- (a) the measures Government has put in place in an effort to cultivate a vibrant startup ecosystem within the agriculture and allied industries,; and
- (b) the details of financial support offered to various startups operating in this sector during the last five years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing "Innovation and Agri-Entrepreneurship Development" programme under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) from 2018-19 with an objective to promote innovation and agri-entrepreneurship by providing financial and technical support for nurturing startups ecosystem in the country. 5 Knowledge Partners (KPs) and 24 RKVY Agribusiness Incubators (R-ABIs) have been appointed for incubation of startups and implementation of this programme.

Start-ups are trained and incubated by these Knowledge Partners (KPs) and RKVY Agribusiness Incubators (R-ABIs) appointed under the programme. Government of India organize various national level programmes including agri-startup conclave, agri fair and exhibitions, webinars, workshops to provide a platform for the promotion of agri startups by linking them with various stakeholders, etc.

Agri-start-ups supported under the programme are at various stages of implementation from 'idea' to 'scaling' and 'growth stage'. These agri-startups are working in different areas of agriculture & allied sectors, such as, precision agriculture, farm mechanization, agri logistics & supply chain, agro-processing & food technology, waste to wealth, organic farming, animal husbandry, dairy & fisheries, etc. The emerging technologies developed by agri- startups are providing various affordable and innovative solutions in agriculture and allied sectors.

(b): Under the programme, the financial support of Rs. 106.25 crores has been provided to a total of 1524 agri startups from 2019-20 to 2023-24. The year wise details are as under:

| Sl.No. | Financial Year | Total number of startups supported | Total fund released to startups (in installments) Rs. in crore |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2019-20 | 58 | 3.13 |
| 2 | 2020-21 | 588 | 27.43 |
| 3 | 2021-22 | 277 | 20.34 |
| 4 | 2022-23 | 253 | 24.35 |
| 5 | 2023-24 | 348 | 31.00 |
| Grand total | | 1524 | 106.25 |
