

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1295
ANSWERED ON- 06/12/2024

IMPLEMENTATION OF NUTRI-SMART VILLAGE PROGRAMME

1295. DR. SUMER SINGH SOLANKI:

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

- (a) the features of Nutri-Smart Village Programme;
- (b) the details of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under the said programme in various States;
- (c) the number of schemes sanctioned so far under the said programme;
- (d) the targets set and achieved so far under the said programme; and
- (e) whether special attention has been given to women working in agriculture sector, particularly those working in rural areas under the said programme, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY)

(a): "Nutri Smart Villages" – is an innovative programme for Strengthening Poshan Abhiyan launched by ICAR-Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (CIWA), Bhubaneswar in 2021 in 75 villages across India. The important features of the programme are as follows:

- Promoting nutritional awareness, education and behavioural change in rural area involving farm women and school children.
- Harnessing traditional knowledge through local recipe to overcome malnutrition.
- Implementing nutrition sensitive agriculture through homestead agriculture and nutri-garden.

(b): There is no separate budget earmarked for the said programme and the expenditure is met out from the existing allocated budget of ICAR-CIWA and All India Coordinated Research Project on Women in Agriculture (AICRP-WIA).

(c): No scheme has been sanctioned under the programme.

(d): On the eve of 75th year of India Independence, a target of 75 villages was set in 13 states of the country under project mode showcasing nutri-gardens, distribution of seeds, conducting awareness programmes and organizing exhibitions etc.

Achievements under Nutri-Smart Village Programme (2021-24)

1. **Villages adopted:** A total of 75 villages were brought under the programme, showcasing its reach and impact in promoting nutritional and sustainable farming practices in the adopted villages.

2. **Nutri-gardens established:** 3,821 nutri-gardens were set up, encouraging households to cultivate nutrient-dense crops like vegetables, fruits, and mushrooms, directly enhancing household-level food security and dietary diversity.

3. **Distribution of seeds:** About 30 quintal of seeds was distributed to farm women, ensuring easy access to quality planting material for establishing and maintaining nutri-gardens & nutri-farms.

4. **Awareness programmes:** 1,092 awareness programmes were conducted to educate rural communities, especially women on the importance of nutrition, balanced diets, and sustainable agricultural practices.

5. **Exhibitions organised:** 425 exhibitions highlighted the benefits of nutri-smart practices, showcasing innovative farming techniques, success stories, and marketable produce.

6. **Training programmes:** 1,025 training programmes equipped women and farmers with practical skills in areas like post-harvest management, crop selection, and value-added processing, fostering empowerment and entrepreneurship.

(e): Yes. The details are as under:

- All the homestead nutri garden (3821 Numbers) were established by the women farmers
- Awareness, trainings and demonstrations have been given to farm women.
- Supplementation of nutri dense Ready to Use (RTU) multigrain mix and high fiber RTU multigrain mix were given to 30 farm women / village to improve the health status.
- Introduced women-friendly agricultural technologies and tools viz., sapling transplanted, Bhendi ring cutter, fertilizer applicator, etc.
