

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:920
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2006
KISAN CALL CENTRES
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has implemented `Kisan Call Centres` scheme in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the amount earmarked for the same, State-wise during the current year; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to mitigate the sufferings of the farmers in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): `Kisan Call Centres` (KCC) scheme was launched on 21st January`04 to provide agricultural information to the farming community through toll free telephone lines. A country wide common four digit number 1551 has been allocated for KCC. The replies to the queries of the farming community are being given in 21 languages. Calls are attended from 6.00 am to 10.00 pm on all 7 days of the week. Since inception of the scheme, over 13 lakh calls have been received upto January 2006.

The B.E. 2005-06 for the scheme is Rs.250.00 lakhs.

The funds are not released state-wise, but the payments under the scheme are made centrally to BSNL, New Delhi in respect of the telephone charges and to Telecommunication Consultants India Limited (TCIL) for operationalizing the KCC.

(c): The Government of India has taken steps to support the States for the benefit of farmers through its various schemes, such as:-

1. National horticulture Mission.
2. Micro Irrigation.
3. Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds – Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure.
4. Development of Market Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization.
5. Construction of Rural Godowns.
6. National Agricultural Insurance Scheme.
7. Integrated Oilseeds, Oil Palm, Pulses and Maize Development.
8. Technology Mission on Cotton.
9. National Project on Promotion of Organic Farming.
10. Strengthening & Modernization of Pest Management approach in the country.
11. Promotion and Strengthening of Agricultural Mechanization through Training, Testing and Demonstration.
12. Strengthening and Modernization of Pest & Plant Management.
13. Strengthening and Modernization of Plant Quarantine Facilities in India.
14. Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Refirms.
15. Mass Media Support to Agricultural Extension.

16. Kisan Call Centres.
17. AGRISNET.
18. Krishi Vigyan Kendras.
19. National Project on Cattle Breeding.
20. Intensive Dairy Development Programme.
21. Animal Disease Control.
22. Development of Marine Fisheries.
23. National Welfare of Fishermen.
24. Assistance to States Poultry Farms.
25. Feed & Fodder Production Enhancement Programme.
26. Livestock Insurance.