GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1626
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 10TH DECEMBER, 2025

GRAMIN KRISHI MAUSAM SEWA SCHEME

1626. SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASHBAPU PATIL:
MS. PRANITI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the implementation of the 'Gramin Krishi Mausam Sewa (GKMS)' scheme in Maharashtra, including the number of Agro-Meteorological Field Units (AMFUs) and District Agro-Met Advisory Centres (DAMUs) currently operational;
(b) whether the districts of Nandurbar, Solapur and Sangli are covered under the GKMS network and if so, the frequency and mode of dissemination of Agro-Met Advisories to farmers in the district;
(c) whether the Government has evaluated the impact of GKMS advisories on crop productivity, input cost reduction and weather risk mitigation for farmers in Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof;
(d) the details of the steps taken to improve the accuracy, localisation and digital accessibility of agro-meteorological forecasts under GKMS; and
(e) whether the Government proposes to integrate GKMS data with Kisan Call Centres, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), and mobile-based platforms for wider farmer outreach in Western Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) In order to cater to the needs of the farming community, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) runs a scheme, viz. Gramin Krishi Mausam Sewa (GKMS) to render weather forecast-based operational Agrometeorological Advisory Services (AAS) in collaboration with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), State Agriculture Universities (SAUs), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), etc.

In Maharashtra, there are 9 Agromet Field Units (AMFUs), viz. Akola, Dapoli, Igatpuri, Kolhapur, Mulde, Parbhani, Pune, Rahuri, and Sindewahi, located at various SAUs, institutes of ICAR, and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), are currently operational under the GKMS scheme. The AMFUs are preparing the district-level AAS bulletins in English and Marathi language for all agriculturally important districts of Maharashtra and are also involved in the dissemination of AAS to the farmers through a multichannel dissemination system like print and electronic media, Doordarshan, radio, internet, etc., including SMS under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

In addition to this, these units also perform other GKMS activities such as preparation and dissemination of Impact-based forecast (IBFs) and appropriate advisories for agriculture during severe weather warnings, utilising available platforms for disseminating the services to the farming community to cover all farmer households.

(b) Yes. The districts of Nandurbar, Solapur, and Sangli are covered under the GKMS network, and Agromet Advisories are being issued twice a week (every Tuesday and Friday) in English as well as in Marathi for these districts. The agromet advisories are disseminated to farmers through various modes such as print and electronic media, Doordarshan, radio, internet, mobile apps, and social media platforms like WhatsApp, Facebook, etc.

(c) No such study is carried out specifically only Maharashtra State to evaluate the impact of GKMS advisories on crop productivity, input cost reduction, and weather risk mitigation for farmers in Maharashtra. However, the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) had conducted periodic surveys in 2009, 2015, and most recently in 2020 to evaluate the economic impact of weather forecast-based advisories in many districts across India. The 2020 study revealed that 98% of surveyed farmers (3,965 farmers from 121 districts across 11 States) made adjustments to at least one of nine agricultural practices based on these advisories. As a result of these modifications, the average annual income of farming households increased significantly. Those who implemented all nine recommended practices saw their annual income rise from Rs. 1.98 Lakh to Rs. 3.02 Lakh. This translated to an additional annual income of Rs. 12,500 for agricultural households classified as Below Poverty Line (BPL) in rain-fed regions. In total, the estimated annual income gain amounted to an impressive Rs. 13,331 crores in rain-fed districts across the country.

(d)-(e) To improve the localisation and digital accessibility of agrometeorological forecasts under GKMS and to integrate weather forecast and agromet advisories in mobile-based platforms for wider farmer outreach, weather forecast and Agromet Advisories are disseminated through a multichannel dissemination system like print and electronic media, Doordarshan, internet, SMS under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) initiatives, etc. In addition, SMS-based alerts and warnings, along with suitable remedial measures, are being sent during extreme weather events like cyclones, deep depressions, etc., through the Kisan Portal. Technological advancements have further enhanced digital accessibility, enabling farmers to receive location-specific forecasts and advisories through mobile apps such as 'Meghdoot' and 'Mausam', and Social media platforms like WhatsApp, Facebook, etc. Additionally, IMD has integrated its services with IT platforms of 21 State Governments, and farmers are accessing the information in English and regional languages from these State Government IT platforms.

IMD, in collaboration with the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR), has recently launched Panchayat-level weather forecasts covering nearly all Gram Panchayats in India. These forecasts are accessible through digital platforms such as e-Gramswaraj (https://egramswaraj.gov.in), Meri Panchayat app, e-Manchitra of MoPR, and Mausamgram of IMD, MoES (https://mausamgram.imd.gov.in).

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