

## **1708 Agri Startups Supported with Technical & Financial Assistance under RKVY's Innovation & Agri-Entrepreneurship Development Program**



Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan told Rajya Sabha that the Government is committed to promote Agri-startups in India by offering both financial and technical support within the agriculture and allied sectors. For this, the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (MoA&FW) has been running an "Innovation and Agri-Entrepreneurship Development" program under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) since 2018-19. This initiative aims to encourage innovation and agri-entrepreneurship by providing financial and technical backing to nurture the startup ecosystem in the country. To date, under the initiative, 5 Knowledge Partners (KPs) and 24 RKVY Agribusiness Incubators (R-ABIs) have been established for the training and incubation of agri-startups.

### **Startups can get financial assistance up to Rs. 25 Lakhs**

Under this program, financial support is available up to Rs. 5 lakhs at the idea/pre-seed stage and up to Rs. 25 lakhs at the seed stage for entrepreneurs/startups in the agriculture and allied sectors. This funding helps them in launching their products, services, business platforms and supports scaling up their operations. Start-ups receive training and incubation from their respective KPs and R-ABIs. Additionally, the Government of India organizes national-level events such as agri-startup conclaves, agri fairs, exhibitions, webinars & workshops to promote agri-startups and connect them with various stakeholders.

### **Formation of Agri Accelerator Fund of Rs. 300 crores**

Furthermore, the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare has approved the establishment of an Agri Accelerator Fund of Rs. 300 crore for three years starting from 2023-24 to support the agriculture start-up ecosystem. The Agri Accelerator Fund is designed to scale up start-ups with innovative technologies that have the potential to transform the agriculture sector.

*So far, 1,708 agri-startups across various fields in agriculture and allied sectors have received technical and financial support totalling Rs. 122.50 crores from 2019-20 to 2023-24 under the Innovation and Agri-Entrepreneurship Development program.*

These agri-startups are at different stages of development, from initial idea to scaling and growth. They work in diverse areas including precision agriculture, farm mechanization, agri logistics and supply chain, waste-to-wealth, organic farming, animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries.

Here is the state-wise list of agriculture start-ups in India supported under “Innovation & Agri-Entrepreneurship Development” programme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

<b>States and UTs</b>	<b>Total number of startups</b>
Andhra Pradesh	61
Arunachal Pradesh	13
Assam	49
Bihar	48
Chhattisgarh	79
Goa	2
Gujarat	47
Haryana	84
Himachal Pradesh	33
Jammu & Kashmir	24
Jharkhand	7
Karnataka	211
Kerala	97
Madhya Pradesh	68
Maharashtra	226
Manipur	22
Meghalaya	2
Mizoram	25

Nagaland	2
Odisha	61
Punjab	52
Rajasthan	66
Tamil Nadu	137
Telangana	98
Tripura	13
Uttar Pradesh	86
Uttarakhand	32
West Bengal	17
Delhi NCR	41
Andaman and Nicobar	1
Chandigarh	3
Pondicherry	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1708</b>

(Source – PIB)