



## “The Million Farmers School” stages of change in the development of agriculture in Uttar Pradesh

Kapil Verma, Aman Verma, Shyam Ji and Nishant Patel

### ABSTRACT

The effort to modernize the farmers is in full swing in order to support the expansion of farming in the nation. The UP government is operating “The Million Farmers School” to teach farmers new and efficient farming techniques in light of this. In this episode, there has been a significant budget announcement involving the school. The effort to modernize the farmers is in full swing in order to support the expansion of farming in the nation. The UP government is operating “The Million Farmers School” to teach farmers new and efficient farming techniques in light of this. In this episode, there has been a significant budget announcement involving the school.

### Introduction:

The Department of Agriculture in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh launched the Million Farmers School (MFS), a creative extension initiative, in 2017. The department organises almost 15,000 training seminars for approximately a million farmers throughout all districts of the state twice a year using its whole extension apparatus. MFS, in contrast to conventional extension services, combines diverse aspects of agricultural knowledge into a packaged product and disseminates it through village-level trainings where participants also receive printed materials on the topics being covered. This study includes

preliminary findings from a process evaluation that included evaluations of programme design, strategies for implementation, and estimates of the advantages of programme participation. In addition to speaking with government representatives and neighbourhood groups, a representative state-level poll was carried out.

### Budget 2023 for this Scheme:

The UP government made a significant statement for farmers in the budget, and as a result, various initiatives are already being launched to train farmers. The Million Farmers School is one of them. About this school,

<sup>1</sup>Kapil Verma (P.G. Scholar), <sup>2</sup>Aman Verma ( Ph.D.Research Scholar), <sup>3</sup>Shyam Ji (P.G.Scholar), <sup>4</sup>Nishant Patel (P.G. Scholar)

<sup>1,2,3</sup>Department of Extension Education, <sup>4</sup>Department of Crop Physiology  
Acharya Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology Kumarganj, Ayodhya

Finance Minister Suresh Khanna made a number of significant announcements in the budget. The UP government will set up Kisan Pathshalas all over the state as part of this programme. The state of Uttar Pradesh will have 17,000 Kisan Pathshalas set up. Which the budget has made public. Tell us about any more remarks that Finance Minister Suresh Khanna made on the agricultural sector in the Budget 2023.

### Why this is unique for farmers?

The expansion of the agricultural sector has received special consideration in this year's budget. Particular emphasis has been placed on giving numerous beneficial programmes already being operated in the benefit of the farmers new life and momentum. To help farmers become financially stable, 17,000 new schools will be opened as part of this budget under the Million Farmers School. Other otherprogrammes for farmers have also been included in the budget that has been announced.

### Impact on farmers:

Regarding farmers' perceptions, the programme appears to have performed successfully as well. The most significant justifications given by participants for attending the training were their favourable perceptions of the program's utility and relevance. Almost 90% of participants thought the training's information was helpful, and more than 85% thought the trainers were knowledgeable and well-trained. Over 95% of participants who were interviewed about the training's comprehension claimed they could understand what was being taught. Almost 70% of participants agreed that they already knew the majority of what was being taught, suggesting that the course's content lacked originality. Curiously, farmers showed considerable eagerness for incorporating new and sophisticated expertise on growing high-value horticultural crops (such asPisciculture, agro-forestry, floriculture, drip and sprinkler irrigation, and cutting-edge agri-business



models are included in the course curriculum as the agenda for future training (such as mushrooms, aloe vera, et al). Overall, the programme has been well accepted; more than two-thirds of the participants who were questioned indicated that they would be happy to attend similar trainings in the future and even suggest it to others in their networks.

### **Conclusion:**

Our study's preliminary findings indicate an auspicious beginning. The MFS has the ability to accomplish much more because of its strong penetration at the village level.

Future versions of the programme should prioritise enhancing its knowledge transfer mechanism for greater impact and changing the course material to fit the broad interests of the modern farmer. The government may move closer to its goal of doubling farmers' wages by 2022 by expanding the programme within the state and replicating the concept in other areas.