

# Agri grads to be roped in for 766 agri-junctions to be set up across UP

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Lucknow:** Unemployed youth with degrees in agricultural sciences or related fields may soon find jobs in as many as 766 Agri-junctions proposed to be set up across the state in the 2025-26 fiscal year.

Agri-junctions are designated centres that aim to support agriculture graduates in establishing their own livelihoods and businesses in the sector. According to detailed guidelines issued by the state agriculture department, the Agri-junctions—proposed to be set up for boosting agricultural productivity—would employ jobless youths who graduated in agricultural science and allied branches. These youths would receive training before being engaged in Krishi Kendras to provide “one-stop shop” facilities to the farmers. These centres will be set up in approximately all developmental blocks and tehsil headquarters.

The mandate of these Agri-junctions would be to provide high-quality seeds, fertilisers, micro-nutrients, and pesticides to the farmers. Specifically, the centres would guide the farmers about new technolo-

gies and the balanced use of fertilisers after a proper soil examination. Besides this, providing mechanised support and helping farmers get the benefit of the PM Crop Insurance Scheme will also be one of the key functions of these centres.

The guidelines state that the youth engaged under the Agri-junction scheme would receive training free of cost. They would also be helped in getting loans from the banks for establishing the centres.

The entire process is scheduled to be completed within a span of six months starting in June. As per the timeline drawn by the state agriculture department, the scheme would be publicised until July 15, followed by the selection of candidates by Aug 14. The candidates would receive training until Sept 15, while the process of providing licences would be completed by Sept 30. The process of loan disbursement would be completed by Dec 15. Eventually, the Agri-junction would be set up by Dec 31.

Selection of candidates for the same would be done by a district-level committee after due screening of the applications.