

**BILL No. LXIV of 2025**

**THE CLIMATE RESILIENT AGRICULTURE AND  
FARMERS PROTECTION BILL, 2025**

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**BILL**

*to formulate the National Mission for Climate Resilient Agriculture  
to mitigate the impact of climate change on agricultural  
productivity and ensure justice for farmers and for  
matters connected therewith and  
incidental thereto.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-sixth Year of the Republic  
of India as follows: —

**1.** (1) This Act may be called as the Climate Resilient Agriculture and  
Farmers Protection Act, 2025.

5 (2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may,  
by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

Short title,  
commencement  
and duration.

(3) It shall cease to have effect on the expiry of five years from the date of notification in the Official Gazette, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such cesser of operation of this Act, and section 6 of the General Clauses Act, 1897, shall apply upon such cesser of operation of this Act as if it had then been repealed by a Central Act.

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Provided that the Act may be extended beyond the period of five years by an order of the Central Government, by notification in the Official Gazette.

Definitions.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) "appropriate Government" means in relation to a State, Government of that State and in all other cases, the Central Government;

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(b) "climate change" refers to a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods;

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(c) "Climate Resilient Agriculture" means the incorporation of adaptation, mitigation and other practices in agriculture which increases the capacity of the system to respond to various climate-related disturbances by resisting damage and recovering quickly;

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(d) "Climate Resilient Villages" means such villages, as identified and notified by the appropriate Government, where climate resilient technologies and practices are implemented to help farmers adapt to climate change and extreme weather;

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(e) "Climate Vulnerable Districts" means those districts as may be identified by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) as highly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, categorised as 'Very High' or 'Highly' vulnerable, for the purpose of prioritising climate resilience interventions and support;

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(f) "Digital General Crop Estimation Survey" means a nationwide initiative aimed at precisely assessing crop yields across a variety of crops, utilising a meticulously crafted survey methodology rooted in the principles of crop cutting experiments;

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(g) "Mission" means the National Mission for Climate Resilient Agriculture to be formulated by the Central Government under section 5; and

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(h) "prescribed" means as prescribed by rules made under this Act.

Recognising climate change as a threat to agriculture.

3. (1) The Central Government shall acknowledge climate change as an urgent, ongoing, and multifaceted threat to agricultural productivity, food security, and the livelihood of farming communities.

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(2) It shall be the duty of the Central Government to prioritise climate resilience in agriculture as an essential component of national agricultural planning and rural development.

Obligation for Climate Resilient Agriculture.

4. (1) **The Central Government shall undertake measures to strengthen Climate Resilient Agriculture with a view to ensuring the continued livelihood and dignity of farmers.**

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(2) The Central Government, shall endeavour to protect the environment from the adverse impacts of climate change, in such manner as may be

prescribed and in accordance with the provisions of any other law in this regard for the time being in force or any other instrument having effect by virtue of any such law.

- 5           **5.**    (1) The Central Government shall formulate the National Mission for Climate Resilient Agriculture with the objective of sustainably using existing natural resources to the optimal level through crop and livestock management, soil and water conservation, agroforestry etc. to achieve long-term higher agricultural productivity and farm incomes under climate variabilities. National Mission for Climate Resilient Agriculture.
- 10           (2) The Central Government may, through the Indian Council of Agriculture Research or any such competitive authority, as it may deem fit, from time to time, identify the Climate Vulnerable Districts in predominantly agricultural districts of the country.
- 15           (3) The appropriate Government may consider aligning their existing programmes and schemes with the principles of Climate Resilient Agriculture in the districts identified as climate vulnerable under sub-section (2).
- 20           **6.**    (1) **The Central Government shall promote Climate Resilient Agriculture by focusing on areas such as improved crop seeds, livestock development, and fish culture enhancement, through climate change-linked schemes and programmes.** Promotion of improved crop seeds, livestock, and fish culture.
- 25           (2) **The appropriate Government, shall implement the Mission by specific interventions, taking into account regional and local conditions and climate vulnerability, such as the development and expansion of Climate Resilient Villages and Climate Resilient Coastal Fishermen Villages, seasonal crop planning, distribution of subsidised climate resilient seeds, and organisation of awareness and training drives for farmers.**
- 30           **7.**    (1) **To enhance irrigation practices, efforts shall be undertaken by the appropriate Government to improve water use efficiency in current agricultural and harvesting methods by utilising and encouraging farmers to adopt climate-effective indigenous and traditional practices.** Improvement of water use efficiency and irrigation management.
- 35           (2) Every State Government shall adopt and initiate measures to secure existing water sources for irrigation by implementing the rejuvenation of dried water bodies in the identified Climate Vulnerable Districts through the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme or through such other programmes or initiatives as they may deem appropriate.
- 40           **8.**    **To ensure crop security and enhance the adaptability of agricultural crops, initiatives shall be undertaken by the State Governments, with the support of and coordination with the Central Government, for effective and climate-responsive pest management, with a view to promoting sustainability and reducing risks arising from changing climatic conditions, including the development and implementation of climate-responsive pest surveillance systems and eco-friendly control practices.** Climate responsive pest management.
- 45           (3) **The appropriate Government shall take necessary measures to promote and encourage farmers to adopt improved farm practices, which shall include, but not be limited to,—**
- 50           (i) traditional, localised methods and innovative techniques, aimed at enhancing tolerance to climate change and reducing reliance on conventional energy and resource-intensive inputs; and
- (ii) improved farm practices.

(ii) the promotion of solar-powered pumps, micro-irrigation systems, and zero-tillage equipment.

Nutrient management.

10. (1) The appropriate Government shall take necessary measures to align the ongoing schemes and programmes, with nutrient management practices to improve soil and crop nutrient status and promote sustainable and eco-friendly farming systems. 5
- (2) The appropriate Government shall adopt such measures including, but not be limited to, the five R principle, *namely*, Right source, Right rate, Right time, Right place, and Right combination and Integrated Nutrient Management by combining chemical fertilisers with organic inputs to ensure optimal use and minimise waste under centrally or state-sponsored schemes, taking into account regional agro-climatic conditions and local ecological factors. 10

Credit support for Climate Resilient Agriculture.

11. (1) The appropriate Government shall facilitate timely and adequate credit support through such agencies, as may be prescribed, to increase the accessibility of small and marginal farmers in Climate Vulnerable Districts to adopt Climate Resilient Agriculture practices. 15
- (2) The support mechanisms under sub-section (1) may include, but shall not be limited to, multi-channel credit policy involving Self Help Groups and Micro-Finance institutions, and improving the health of the rural financial institutions in the Climate Vulnerable Districts where the Credit-Deposit ratio is low. 20
- (3) The Central and State Governments shall initiate programmes to enhance financial literacy amongst farmer communities in Climate Vulnerable Districts.** 25

Agricultural insurance for climate risks.

12. (1) The appropriate Government may review the existing agricultural insurance framework, and make necessary modifications, as deemed fit, to comprehensively address and provide coverage for a decline in crop production and related risks arising from the impacts of climate change, thereby enhancing the resilience and financial security of farmers. 30
- (2) The Central Government shall make specific provisions for addressing climate-related risk coverage for farmers, thereby compensating for the declining crop productivity.
- (3) The appropriate Government shall, based on regional requirements and vulnerability assessments, adopt and implement insurance initiatives aimed at providing effective climate-related risk coverage to farmers, thereby enhancing their adaptability and financial protection against climate-induced crop losses.** 35

Strengthening agricultural markets.

13. (1) The appropriate Government shall take necessary measures to improve current agricultural market mechanisms by supporting forward and backwards linkages in agricultural value chains to facilitate the promotion and adoption of climate-resilient agricultural practices, ensuring better integration of climate risk considerations into market access, pricing, and post-harvest loss prevention. 40
- (2) The measures under sub-section (1) may include, but shall not be limited to, access to markets, infrastructure for storage and food processing adapted with irradiation technology, and direct market linkages for farmers through institutional and digital platforms, taking into account regional disparities, agro-climatic conditions, and local needs. 45 50

Access to climate and agro-advisory information.

14. **(1) To improve accessibility and dissemination of information, the appropriate Government shall develop and strengthen hyperlocal weather forecasting and agro-climatic advisory services to support informed decision-making by farmers in Climate Vulnerable**

Districts, with the objective of enhancing preparedness and adaptive capacity in the face of climate variability.

5 (2) Such information referred to in sub-section (1) may, include but shall not be limited to, data derived from advanced scientific platforms such as the Digital General Crop Estimation Survey, satellite data, and remote sensing technologies in a highly localised manner, and shall be made accessible to farmers through appropriate digital, institutional, and community-based dissemination channels.

10 15. (1) The Central Government shall, under the Mission, establish an Index-Based Cash Transfer mechanism to provide annual financial assistance as a timely and minimum income security net for farmers affected by adverse climatic events in Climate Vulnerable Districts.

Post-harvest crop security and compensation.

(2) For the purposes of sub-section (1), the Central Government shall—

15 (a) develop district-level climate indices based on local weather patterns, crop vulnerability, and historical climatic data to assess the risk of crop loss;

20 (b) establish automated, mobile-enabled cash transfer systems linked to Aadhaar-enabled bank accounts or digital wallets, to disburse payments when predetermined climatic thresholds are exceeded;

(c) use satellite technology, remote sensing, and meteorological data for real-time monitoring of climate impacts on crops and for the verification of eligibility under the Index-Based Cash Transfer mechanism;

25 (d) notify eligible farmers through mobile-based alerts and ensure transparent and timely disbursement of compensation; and

(e) establish a robust grievance redressal mechanism to address disputes or delays related to the cash transfer process under the Index-Based Cash Transfer mechanism.

30 16. The Central Government may, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law in this behalf, provide such sums of money to the State Governments, as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

Central Government to provide funds.

35 17. (1) The appropriate Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette and subject to the condition of previous publication, make rules not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Power to make rules.

40 (2) Every rule made by the Central Government under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days, which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

50 (3) Every rule made by a State Government under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before the Legislature of that State, where it consists of one House, or where it consists of two Houses, before both Houses of the State Legislature.

Act to have  
overriding  
effect.

- 18.** The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not in derogation of the provisions of any other law in this regard for the time being in force or any other instrument having effect by virtue of any such law and in case of any inconsistency, the provisions of this Act shall have overriding effect on the provision of any such law to the extent of such inconsistency.

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## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

India's agriculture sector is facing an unprecedented crisis due to the accelerating impacts of climate change. Between 2019 and 2024, nearly 80 per cent. of Indian farmers suffered crop losses resulting from adverse climatic events. In 2024 alone, 3.2 million hectares of cropland were affected by extreme weather events. In 2021, 5.04 million hectares were similarly impacted by hydro-meteorological calamities, causing significant agricultural losses.

2. According to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), 310 out of 651 districts in India have been identified as climate vulnerable, with 109 districts classified as 'very high' and 201 as 'highly' vulnerable. However, only 448 Climate Resilient Villages have been implemented in 151 districts—covering merely three villages per district—despite India having approximately 6.64 lakh villages.

3. Existing programmes like the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture, under the National Action Plan on Climate Change, do not fully address the long-term and systemic impacts of climate change. Their coverage is limited, interventions scattered, and budgetary allocations inadequate. The Committee of Estimates (2024–25) has expressed concern over the neglect of many climate vulnerable regions due to financial constraints, despite the existential risks posed to agricultural livelihoods in these areas.

4. The current insurance framework, including the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, does not sufficiently address the gradual decline in crop productivity caused by long-term climatic changes. There is no legal guarantee or statutory obligation to support farmers against persistent environmental stressors. The National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) has noted the limited efficacy of crop insurance as a standalone remedy. The Bill seeks to mainstream climate justice for small and marginal farmers by formulation of a National Mission for Climate Resilient Agriculture to mitigate the impact of climate change on agricultural productivity and full-fledged involvement and support of both the Central and State Governments to undertake necessary measures for the effective implementation of the objectives of the Mission.

Hence, this Bill.

RENUKA CHOWDHURY.

## FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 4 of the Bill provides that the Central Government shall take necessary measures to strengthen Climate Resilient Agriculture. Clause 6 of the Bill provides that the Central Government shall promote Climate Resilient Agriculture and the appropriate Government shall implement the National Mission for Climate Resilient Agriculture by expansion of Climate Resilient Villages and Coastal Resilient Coastal Fishermen Villages. Clause 7 of the Bill provides for the rejuvenation of dried water bodies in Climate Vulnerable Districts by the appropriate Government to improve water use efficiency, irrigation management and ensure water security. Clause 8 of the Bill provides for climate responsive pest management. Sub-clause (3) of Clause 12 of the Bill provides that the appropriate Government shall adopt and implement insurance initiatives aimed at providing effective climate-related risk coverage to farmers. Clause 14 provides that the appropriate Government shall develop and strengthen hyperlocal weather forecasting and agro-climatic advisory services to support informed decision-making by farmers in Climate Vulnerable Districts. Clause 15 of the Bill provides for the establishment of an Index-Based Cash Transfer mechanism to offer annual financial assistance to farmers in Climate Vulnerable Districts affected by adverse climatic events. Clause 16 provides that the Central Government shall provide adequate funds to the State Government for carrying out the purposes of the Bill.

The Bill, therefore, if enacted, will involve expenditure both of recurring and non-recurring nature. At this stage, while the exact expenditure cannot be determined, it is estimated that the implementation of the Index-Based Cash Transfer mechanism will involve a recurring expenditure of approximately sixty thousand crore rupees per annum, benefitting around 6 crore farmers. Additionally, a non-recurring capital expenditure of approximately 18,707.97 crore rupees is expected in the first year for infrastructure related to Climate Resilient Villages, Coastal Resilient Coastal Fishermen Villages, and water body rejuvenation efforts.

## MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 17 of the Bill empowers empowers the appropriate Government to make rules for carrying out the purposes of the Bill.

As the rules will relate to matters of detail only, the delegation of legislative power is of a normal character.

RAJYA SABHA

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*(Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury, M.P.)*