

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 167
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD FEBRUARY, 2023

INCREASING PRODUCTION OF EDIBLE OILS

167. SHRI S. KALYANASUNDARAM:
SHRI R. GIRIRAJAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government concurs with the view that heavily incentivising small farmers and forest-dependent communities to grow and collect oilseeds of all kinds would go a long way in meeting the shortfall of edible oils;

(b) if so, the details of the initiatives that are proposed to be taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NAREDNRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c) The Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, National Food Security Mission- Oilseeds (NFSM-OS) to augment the availability of vegetable oils and to reduce the import of edible oils by increasing the production and productivity of oilseeds (Groundnut, Soybean, Rapeseed & Mustard, Sunflower, Safflower, Sesame, Niger, Linseed and Castor) and area expansion of Tree Borne Oilseeds (Olive, Mahua, Kokum, Wild Apricot, Neem, Jojoba, Karanja, Simaroba, Tung, Cheura and Jatropha) in the country.

Under NFSM-OS, following financial assistance is being provided to farmers including small farmers and also to forest dwellers and tribal people who are extracting oils from TBOs for edible, medicinal and other purposes.

- (i) Under NFSM- Oilseeds, financial assistance is being provided to the farmers for three broad interventions viz., (i) seed components covering purchase of breeder seeds, production of foundation and certified seed, distribution of certified seed, Seed Hubs, seed infrastructure development and supply of seed minikits of Oilseed crops, (ii) Production inputs component covering Plant Protection (PP) equipments, PP chemicals, distribution of gypsum/ pyrites/ lime etc., Nuclear Polyhedrosis Virus/ bio agent, bio-fertilizers, improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, water carrying pipes, seed storage bins, seed treating drum, etc; and (iii) Transfer of Technology component covering officers training, farmers training, Cluster demonstration,

Frontline demonstrations, Cluster Frontline Demonstrations (CFLDs) by Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Farmers field schools and need based R&D projects including seminars/ kisan melas, and flexi funds, etc.

- (ii) Under NFSM-TBOs, financial assistance is being provided to the farmers for area expansion inputs including integrated development of nurseries & plantation on the new wasteland as well as existing wasteland/ degraded forest land and maintenance of TBOs plantation from 2nd year of plantation till gestation period, production inputs including incentives for undertaking intercropping with TBOs and distribution of pre-processing, processing and oil extraction equipment and transfer of technology including farmers training and officers/ extension workers training, Research & Development on TBOs and Flexi Fund, etc.

In addition to NFSM-OS, the Government has launched a separate Mission for Oil Palm, which is the National Mission for Edible Oils (Oil Palm) - NMEO (OP) to promote oil palm cultivation for making the country self sufficient in edible oils with special focus on North-Eastern States and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. NMEO (OP) has been launched by targeting an additional 6.5 lakh hectare area from 2021-22 to 2025-26.

Under NMEO- OP, financial assistance is being provided to the farmers for planting materials, inputs for intercropping upto gestation period of 4 years and for maintenance, establishment of seed garden, nurseries, micro irrigation, bore well/pump-set/ water harvesting structure, vermin compost units, solar pumps, harvesting tools, custom hiring centre cum harvester groups, farmers and officer training and for replanting of oil palm gardens etc.

The Coconut Development Board also incentivizing to the coconut grower farmers for area expansion, entrepreneurs and research studies under Technology Mission on Coconut.
