

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2726**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24/03/2023

**MONETARY AND REGULATORY SUPPORT TO TOBACCO GROWERS**

2726. DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE:

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

- a) the institutional, monetary and regulatory support given by various Ministries of the Central and State Governments for the tobacco growers for alternate cropping and / or for alternate livelihood;
- b) if so, the details thereof; and
- c) the total area under tobacco cultivation in year 2017 and at present in our country; the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c) The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing Crop Diversification Programme (CDP) in 10 tobacco growing states namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal to encourage tobacco growing farmers to shift to alternative crops/cropping system. Under CDP, tobacco growing states have been given the flexibility to take suitable activities / interventions to shift from tobacco crops to alternative agricultural / horticultural crops, as per the cost norms approved under any centrally sponsored scheme/state scheme.

For motivating the farmers, states may also organize study tours / exposure visits and campaigns etc. for highlighting the harmful effects of tobacco and long term benefits of alternative crops. Government of India also provide flexibility to the states for state specific needs/ priorities under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana – Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sectors Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR). An amount of Rs. 10.00 crore (central share) has been allocated to the implementing states for replacing tobacco with alternative crops under CDP during 2022-23.

The total area under tobacco crop in the country was 4.11 lakh hectares during 2017-18, which is reduced to 3.57 lakh hectares during 2020-21.

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