

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-6
ANSWERED ON 02/02/2024

INCENTIVES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE SECTOR

6. DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE:

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

- (a) whether Government is satisfied with various concessions/ incentives provided to the farmers for development of agricultural sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) whether suggestions have been received from various quarters to give agriculture the status of industry;
- d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the benefits likely to be accrued to the farmers as a result thereof; and
- (f) the details of comprehensive action plan initiated by Government for sustained development of agricultural sector and farmers including the outcome thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI ARJUN MUNDA)

(a) & (b): Agriculture being a State Subject, the State Governments take appropriate measures for development of agriculture in the State. However, Government of India supplements the efforts of States through appropriate policy measures, budgetary support and various schemes/ programmes. Various schemes/ programmes of the Government of India are meant for the welfare of farmers by increasing production, remunerative returns and income support to farmers. The Government has substantially enhanced the budget allocation of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare from Rs. 27,662.67 crore BE during 2013-14 to Rs. 1,25,035.79 crore BE during 2023-24. This unprecedented enhanced budgetary provision has been made to facilitate the following efforts of the Government:

- i. Income support to farmers through PM KISAN
- ii. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)
- iii. Institutional Credit for agriculture sector
- iv. Fixing of Minimum Support Price (MSP) at one-and-a half times the cost of production

- v. Promotion of organic farming in the country
- vi. Per Drop More Crop
- vii. Micro Irrigation Fund
- viii. Promotion of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)
- ix. National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM)
- x. Agricultural Mechanization
- xi. Providing Soil Health Cards to farmers
- xii. Setting up of National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) extension Platform
- xiii. Launch of the National Mission for Edible Oils – Oil Palm
- xiv. Agri Infrastructure Fund (AIF)
- xv. Improvement in farm produce logistics, Introduction of Kisan Rail.
- xvi. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) - Cluster Development Programme:
- xvii. Creation of a Start-up Eco system in agriculture and allied sector
- xviii. Achievement in Export of Agri and Allied Agri- Commodities

Successful implementation of these schemes resulted in record food grain production from 265.05 million tons in 2013-14 to record 330.53 million tons in 2022-23 (as per 3rd advance estimates), horticulture production from 277.35 million tons in 2013-14 to 350.97 million tons in 2022-23. The country has also witnessed growth in export of agriculture and allied commodities from 50.24 billion USD in 2021-22 to 53.15 billion USD in 2022-23 i.e. an increase of 5.79%.

(c) to (e) : There have been demands to accord industry status to the agriculture sector. Agriculture and industry supplement each other. Government seeks to bestow on the agriculture sector as many benefits are available to those in the manufacturing sector, such as, easy availability of credit and other inputs like quality seeds, fertilizers, electricity, etc. and creation of infrastructure facilities, such as assistance to FPOs/cold storages, etc. for development of agriculture sector, including marketing and post-harvest management.

(f) : Government of India is already promoting agriculture by way of sustainable agricultural and good agriculture practices with environment concern. It is implementing National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) which is one of the National Missions under National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). NMSA aims to evolve and implement strategies to make Indian agriculture more resilient to the changing climate. The various components being implemented in this regard are Rainfed Area Development (RAD), On Farm Water Management (OFWM), Soil Health Management (SHM), Soil Health Card (SHC), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana(PKVY), Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North Eastern Region(MOVCDNER), Submission on Agroforestry (SMAF) and Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinhchayee Yojana (PMKSY). Rainfed Area Development under NMSA focuses on Integrated Farming System (IFS) for enhancing productivity and minimizing risks associated with climatic variability. Under this system, crops/cropping system is integrated with activities like horticulture, livestock, fishery, agro-forestry, apiculture etc.
