

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1281
ANSWERED ON 06/12/2024

SPECIAL SCHEME FOR TRIBAL AND RURAL FARMERS

1281. SHRI ADITYA PRASAD:

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

- (a) whether there is any special scheme in the agriculture sector for the tribals and rural farmers in Jharkhand;
- (b) whether Government is working towards providing accurate weather forecasts to the farmers through several agriculture-related innovative technologies like C-band Doppler radar in Jharkhand; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): Government of India is implementing a comprehensive range of central sector as well as centrally sponsored schemes and programmes for the welfare of all the farmers across the country. These schemes encompass entire spectrum of agriculture including credit, insurance, income support, infrastructure, crops including horticulture, seeds, mechanization, marketing, organic and natural farming, farmer collectives, irrigation, extension, procurement of crops from farmers at minimum support prices, digital agriculture etc. There is no specific scheme in the agriculture sector for the tribals, however, there is a Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) component under the schemes which provides for allocation to the extent of 8.6% of total allocation under respective schemes, for the benefits of Scheduled Tribe farmers. Union Cabinet has approved PM JanJatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PMJUGA) renamed as Dharti Aaba Jan Jatiya Gram Uttkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA) on 18.09.2024. Ministry of Tribal Affairs is nodal Agency. Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has been entrusted with improving the socio-economic condition of tribal communities by adopting saturation coverage for tribal families in tribal-majority villages and aspiration districts which will benefit FRA (Forest Rights Act) Patta holders through convergence of its schemes with an outlay of Rs 2500 Cr (Rs 500cr x 5 yrs) over the period of 5 years. Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has made changes in guidelines of its schemes to allign with objective of inclusive growth of FRA Patta

holders. Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare under its various schemes have significantly contributed in initial stage of this Abhiyaan for FRA Paata holders.

(b) & (c): To enable farmers take decisions on day-to-day agricultural operations for reduction of crop damage and loss due to extreme weather as well as taking advantages of benevolent weather conditions, India Meteorological Department (IMD) is implementing a scheme - Gramin Krishi Mausam Sewa (GKMS) to render weather forecast based operational Agrometeorological Advisory Services (AAS) in collaboration with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), State Agriculture Universities (SAUs) and other institutions for the benefit of farming community. Under this scheme, presently 130 Agromet Field Units (AMFUs), located at SAUs, institutes of ICAR and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) etc. are operational across the country.

Out of the 130 AMFUs, 3 AMFUs in Jharkhand viz. Ranchi, Darisai (Jamshedpur) & Dumka are preparing the district level AAS bulletins for all districts of Jharkhand. These units are also involved in dissemination of AAS to the farmers through multichannel dissemination system like print and electronic media, Door Darshan, radio, internet etc. including SMS using mobile phones through Kisan Portal and also through private companies under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. SMS-based alerts and warnings along with suitable remedial measures are being sent during extreme weather events like cyclone, deep depression etc. through Kisan Portal. Moreover, to add that through VLE's of CSC the AAS bulletins are reaching to all panchayats of Jharkhand. India Meteorological Department (IMD) Ranchi has also collaborated with IFFCO Kisan call center from where Farmers are getting their Farming queries sorted out in vernacular languages.

Recently, India Meteorological Department (IMD), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), in collaboration with the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR), launched Panchayat-level weather forecasts for nearly all Gram Panchayats in India on 24th October 2024. These forecasts are accessible on digital platforms such as e-Gramswaraj, the MeriPanchayat app, e-Manchitra of Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR), and Mausamgram of India Meteorological Department (IMD), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).
