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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2894 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20/12/ 2024

CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTATION OF DIGITAL AGRICULTURE MISSION

2894. DR. SIKANDER KUMAR:

Will the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given approval to the umbrella scheme, Digital Agriculture Mission which aims to improve farmers lives through technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with total budget sanctioned;

(c) whether Government have faced challenges while implementing the scheme;

(d) whether the scheme is implemented in all States including Himachal Pradesh, if not, by when it will be implemented; and

(e) whether Government has taken any initiative to promote sustainable development and to ensure food availability for all citizens across the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (d): The Government has approved the Digital Agriculture Mission on 2nd September, 2024 with an outlay of Rs. 2817 Crore. The Mission seeks to enable a robust digital agriculture ecosystem in the country for driving innovative farmer-centric digital solutions and making available timely and reliable crop-related information to all the farmers in the country. The Mission envisages the creation of Digital Public Infrastructure for Agriculture such as Agristack, Krishi Decision Support System, Comprehensive Soil Fertility & Profile Map and other IT initiatives undertaken by Central Government/State Governments. Agristack project is one of the major components of this Mission, which consists of three foundational registries or databases in the agriculture sector, i.e., the Farmers' Registry, Geo-referenced village maps and the Crop Sown Registry, all created and maintained by the State Governments/ Union Territories. Digitised land records and Geo-Referenced village Maps are critical for the implementation of AgriStack. The Government is providing administrative and technical supports to the all the states for implementation of the Mission including the state of Himachal Pradesh.

(e): The Department of Agriculture, & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) in all of 28 States and 2 Union Territories viz. Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh with the objective to increase foodgrain production through area expansion and productivity enhancement. Under NFSNM, assistance is given through state governments to farmers for interventions like cluster demonstrations on improved package of practices, demonstrations on cropping system, distribution of seeds of High Yielding Varieties (HYVs)/hybrids, improved farm machineries/resource conservation machineries/tools, efficient water application tools, plant protection measures, nutrient management/soil ameliorants, processing & post-harvest equipments, cropping system based trainings to the farmers etc. The mission also provides support to Indian Council of Agricultural research (ICAR) & State Agricultural Universities (SAUs)/Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) for technology back stopping and transfer of technology to the farmer under supervision of Subject Matter Specialists/Scientists.
