

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2245
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 08/08/2025

CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTATION OF DAM

2245. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:

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

- (a) whether Government has launched Digital Agriculture Mission (DAM);
- (b) if so, the key objectives and components thereof;
- (c) whether a number of factors such as average size of landholding, digital divide, high initial costs, lack of sufficient research, inadequate infrastructure, limited vernacular content, integration of diverse agricultural systems, etc. pose challenges in its effective implementation; and
- (d) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (d): The Government has approved the Digital Agriculture Mission in September 2024. The Mission envisages the creation of a Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for Agriculture, such as AgriStack, Krishi Decision Support System, a comprehensive Soil Fertility & Profile Map and other IT initiatives undertaken by Central Government/State Governments to enable a robust digital agriculture ecosystem in the country. This, in turn, would drive innovative farmer-centric digital solutions and make reliable crop-related information available to all farmers on time. The AgriStack DPI consists of three foundational registries or databases associated with the agriculture sector, i.e., Geo-Referenced Village Maps, Crop Sown Registry, and the Farmers Registry, all created and maintained by the State Governments/ Union Territories. At present, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed with 30 States/UTs for the creation and implementation of the Digital Public Infrastructure.

The Digital Agriculture Mission has been designed in consultation with various Central Ministries, State Government/Union Territories through organization of National Conferences.

Smart phones are becoming available and accessible to everyone, and major telecom companies of India have reached almost every corner of the country with their services. However, additional steps have been taken to ensure that farmers who do not have mobile phones can also avail of the benefits of digital services. Such farmers can register themselves on AgriStack and avail services and benefits by utilizing existing support facilities like Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Krishi Sakhis and Common Service Centres (CSCs). The States are also organizing camps

so that no farmer is left out from the benefits of AgriStack. The Government is also making digital applications available in local languages through integration of Bhashini Platforms.

The challenges in implementation of AgriStack are also monitored by the Steering Committee which comprises the Central Government officials along with State Government representatives. Regular meetings are held with State-level officials to incorporate inputs for tailoring the mission to specific agro-climatic and socio-economic conditions.

The Government is also providing administrative and technical support to all the States for the implementation of AgriStack.

- I. Providing training to the State officials.
- II. Software for Farmer ID and Digital Crop Survey.
- III. Support for hiring human resources for creating a Project Monitoring Unit.
- IV. Providing Cloud Infrastructure for implementing the project.
- V. Providing fund to conduct Digital Crop Survey.
- VI. Providing fund to strengthen the IT infrastructure in the States/UTs.
- VII. The Department of Expenditure (DoE), Ministry of Finance, has announced a Scheme for Special Central Assistance (SCA) to States for Capital Investment during 2025-26 with a total allocation of Rupees 6000 Crores.
- VIII. Further, the Government has advised the States to adopt a Camp-mode approach, under which financial assistance of Rs. 15,000 per camp has been provisioned to the States to encourage States to organize field-level camps and mobilise local administration.
- IX. To accelerate the creation and verification of Farmers' Registry, Rs. 10/- per Farmer ID has been provisioned from the administrative fund of the PM KISAN Scheme. This amount will be utilized to provide an honorarium to the field functionaries involved in the creation of the Farmers' Registry.
