

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2247**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 08/08/2025

**DIVERSION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND FOR SOLAR ENERGY PROJECTS**

2247. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that in several states, farmers are leasing or selling fertile and high-yielding agricultural land to private or public entities for solar energy projects;
- (b) whether any assessment or survey has been conducted on the long-term impact of this trend on national food security, crop production, soil health, and rural employment;
- (c) whether it is a fact that, despite availability of barren, wasteland or non-arable areas, fertile land is being predominantly utilised for such projects; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to a national policy discouraging the use of cultivable land for solar infrastructure development?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c): The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) scheme is a government initiative aimed at providing energy and water security to farmers, enhancing their income, and reducing the reliance on diesel for irrigation. The Components under PM-KUSUM are as given below:

- (i) Component A of PM KUSUM scheme allows setting up of 10,000 Megawatt (MW) of Decentralized Ground Mounted / Stilt Mounted Grid Connected Solar or other Renewable Energy based Power Plants by the farmers on their land.
- (ii) Component B of the scheme focuses on De-dieselisations of the agri-irrigation sector with a target of installing 14 Lakh of Off grid Stand-alone Solar Agriculture Pumps.
- (iii) Component C of the scheme is meant for solarisation of grid connected agriculture pumps, enabling farmers to earn additional income by selling surplus power to distribution companies (DISCOMs) with a target of bringing 35 Lakh Grid Connected Agriculture Pumps.

Under the scheme, Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to the extent of 30% is provided to States (50% for North Eastern & Hilly States/UTs/Islands). Further, the scheme allows the use of barren, marsh, fallow land etc. for installation of solar plants up to 2 MW. In case the plants are installed in a stilt manner, the cultivation can be done under the solar plants, allowing dual use of land. There is no such report on long-term impact on national food security or crop production.

(d): There is no such proposal under consideration.

\*\*\*\*\*