GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS' WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS' WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2265
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 08/08/2025

CORRECTIVE STEPS TO ADDRESS STRUCTURAL CHALLENGES IN AGRICULTURE.

2265. DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE:

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

(a) Whether the Government is aware of the fact that Indian agriculture is plagued by structural challenges, including fragmented landholdings, unsustainable resource use and environmental degradation; and
(b) if so, the details of the corrective steps taken for enhancing agricultural productivity, raising resource use efficiency, promoting sustainable agriculture and strengthening infrastructure, ensuring remunerative price to farmers, etc.?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) & (b): The Government is implementing National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) to make Indian Agriculture a sustainable production system. Several schemes have been initiated under NMSA to achieve resilience in Agriculture. Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme increases water use efficiency at the farm level through micro irrigation technologies i.e. drip and sprinkler irrigation systems. Rainfed Area Development focuses on Integrated Farming System for enhancing productivity and minimizing risks associated with climatic variability. The Soil Health & Fertility scheme assists states in promoting integrated nutrient management through judicious use of chemical fertilizers including secondary and micronutrients in conjunction with organic manures & bio-fertilizers for improving soil health and its productivity. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture, Agroforestry & National Bamboo Mission also promote climate resilience in agriculture. Organic farming is supported by the schemes of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER). PKVY is being implemented in all the states other than North Eastern (NE) states, whereas MOVCDNER is being implemented exclusively in the NE states. These schemes provide end-to-end support to organic farmers i.e. from production to processing, certification and marketing, in cluster-based approach where preference is given to small and marginal farmers. Further to address the impact of climate change, the National Agricultural Research System has released 2900 varieties during last 10 years (2014-2024). Out of these 2661 varieties are tolerant to one or more biotic and/or abiotic stresses. Climate resilient technologies such as system of rice intensification, aerobic rice, direct seeding of rice, zero till wheat sowing, cultivation of climate resilient varieties tolerant to extreme weather conditions such as drought and heat; in-situ incorporation of rice residues; etc. have been developed and demonstrated.

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