

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 661
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24/07/2026

PRODUCTION CAPACITY OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS IN BIHAR

661. DR. BHIM SINGH:

Will the MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the strategy being adopted to bridge the gap between the production potential and actual yield of horticultural crops in Bihar so as to increase the income of farmers in the State;
- (b) the current district-wise status of the utilization of the entire amount of ₹40 crore allocated and released to Bihar for the year 2024-25 under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH); and
- (c) the framework for the implementation of the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) in the State to ensure remunerative prices for farmers' horticultural produce?

ANSWER

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

(a): Government is implementing the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) in the entire country including Bihar with the objectives of enhancing horticultural productivity, improving quality of produce, promoting climate-resilient technologies, strengthening post-harvest management and value chain infrastructure, and increasing farmers' income. Under MIDH, assistance is provided for production of quality planting material, area expansion, protected cultivation, micro-irrigation, integrated nutrient and pest management, capacity building, post-harvest management and market infrastructure.

Under the Mission, the following interventions are being implemented in Bihar to bridge the gap between the production potential and actual yield of horticultural crops:

- **Quality Planting Material:** Establishment of Plug Type Nurseries for production of healthy, disease-free vegetable seedlings using soilless media to ensure timely availability of quality planting material and better crop establishment.
- **Centres of Excellence:** Centre of Excellence for Fruits at Vaishali and Centre of Excellence for Vegetables at Nalanda have been established to demonstrate modern horticulture technologies, produce quality planting material and build farmers' capacity.
- **Micro-Irrigation:** Promotion of micro-irrigation systems to improve water-use efficiency, reduce input costs and enhance productivity.
- **Protected Cultivation:** Promotion of protected cultivation for high-value horticultural crops to improve productivity, quality and farmers' income.
- **Capacity Building:** Training and extension programmes are being implemented in collaboration with ATMA, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and agricultural universities to promote Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), scientific cultivation methods and efficient value chain management.

In addition, the PM-RKVY DPR-based Plant Protection Scheme is being implemented in the State to ensure timely availability of quality plant protection inputs and services, promote Integrated Pest Management (IPM), reduce crop losses due to pests and diseases, encourage adoption of cost-effective technologies, and improve productivity and farmers' income.

Further Government is also implementing Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) Scheme to provide medium- and long-term debt financing for developing post-harvest management infrastructure. Under AIF, there is provision for collateral free term loan upto Rs. 2.00 crore and interest subvention of 3% on the term loan availed for creation of post-harvest infrastructure. The scheme aims to reduce post-harvest losses, improve value addition, strengthen agricultural supply chains, and enhance farmers' income. Under the scheme, as on date a total of 65 projects related to cold store, integrated primary & secondary processing unit and poly houses have been approved for which an amount of Rs. 208.61 crore have been sanctioned.

(b): During the year 2024-25, an amount of ₹40.00 crore was allocated to the State of Bihar under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), out of which ₹27.23 crore has been utilized. The district-wise details of fund utilization are given in the Annexure.

(c): Government is implementing the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of perishable agricultural and horticultural commodities that are not covered under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) regime. The objective of the Scheme is to protect farmers from distress sales in the event of a bumper crop and a significant decline in market prices. MIS is implemented on the request of a State/UT Government, which agrees to bear 50% of the losses incurred on implementation (25% in the case of North-Eastern States). Under the Scheme, procurement is undertaken by the designated State agency at the Market Intervention Price (MIP) approved by the MIS Committee, subject to the prescribed operational guidelines, including procurement limits and sharing of losses between the Central and State Governments.

Further, in the case of TOP (Tomato, Onion and Potato) crops, where there is a substantial price difference between producing and consuming States, the operational costs incurred by the Central Nodal Agencies, namely NAFED and NCCF, and the designated State agencies for storage and transportation of produce from producing States to consuming States are reimbursed, in the interest of farmers.

Details of the district-wise utilization of funds under MIDH for the year 2024-25 is as under:

Rs. in Lakhs

S. No.	District Name	Funds Utilized
1	ARARIA	47.29
2	AURANGABAD	65.36
3	BANKA	39.96
4	BEGUSARAI	107.42
5	BHAGALPUR	70.26
6	DARBHANGA	80.33
7	EAST CHAMPARAN	126.70
8	GAYA	84.55
9	JAMUI	70.22
10	KATIHAR	149.48
11	KHAGARIA	85.47
12	KISHANGANJ	92.48
13	MADHUBANI	63.58
14	MUNGER	49.28
15	MUZAFFARPUR	99.73
16	NALANDA	77.52
17	PATNA	117.46
18	PURNIA	212.39
19	ROHTAS	90.68
20	SAHARSA	67.57
21	SAMASTIPUR	148.20
22	WEST CHAMPARAN	161.72
23	VAISHALI	114.81
24	HO (BHDS)	500.66
	Total	2,723.13
