

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.715
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 07TH FEBRUARY, 2023

AGRICULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

715. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:
SHRIMATI GEETA KORA:
SHRI PARBATBHAI SAVABHAI PATEL:
SHRI JUGAL KISHORE SHARMA:
SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री
be pleased to state :

(a): whether the Government is providing any incentives to the States to promote Agriculture Infrastructure Fund and to improve agriculture;

(b): the various measures taken by the Government to increase agricultural productivity and export, to make the agriculture sector employable and to inspire the new generation to take up farming in the country, State/UT-wise particularly in Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Gujarat during the last three years; and

(c): the details of amount of funds being invested in agriculture and the allied sectors under Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SISNGH TOMAR)

(a): Central Government is providing Grants-in-aid to States to promote Agriculture Infrastructure Fund and to improve agriculture. Such fund is being used by States for the following purposes in spreading awareness among farmers:

1. Cost of setting up State Project Monitoring Units (PMU).
2. Cost of capacity building of State PMU
3. Providing consultation / support to beneficiaries in preparing DPRs
4. Handholding support
5. Creating awareness about the Scheme among public / beneficiaries

(b): In order to increase **Agriculture productivity** and export, Various measures were taken by the Government, viz. Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) which encourages farmers, agri-entrepreneur, Start-ups, Farmer Producers Organization, SHGs etc. to adopt innovation and farm mechanization in Indian agriculture. Apart from bridging the infrastructure gap in Indian agriculture in a bid to curtail post harvest losses, boosting productivity through facilitating loans from lending institutions for activities like, Organic inputs production, Bio stimulant production units, Nursery, Tissue culture, Seed Processing etc.

Other activities in the category of Infrastructure for smart and precision agriculture aim at making this sector attractive for the new generation are: Farm/Harvest Automation, setting up of Custom Hiring Centres, Purchase of drones, putting up specialized sensors on field, Block chain and AI in agriculture etc. Introduction of Remote sensing and Internet of Things (IOT) such as automatic weather station, Farm advisory services through GIS applications constitute other such initiatives. AIF also aims at improvising Supply chain services that includes creation of e-marketing platforms.

Some more measures to increase **Agriculture productivity** are making available of improved seeds, timely availability/ supply of critical inputs like fertilizers etc, less occurrence of pests/ diseases, farm mechanization, irrigation facilities, weather, adequate credit, and marketing facilities.

The Government has also taken various steps to increase productivity by promoting investments in both private and public, in agriculture in the country through various schemes/ programmes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Agriculture Infrastructure Fund, Drip Irrigation System, under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai, Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rainfed Area Development Programme, formation of Farmer Producer Organization Scheme (FPOs), Interest Subvention Scheme, Micro Irrigation Fund, Custom Hiring Centers, Introduction of Kisan Rail, Start-ups under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana – Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sectors Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) etc.

Further, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, implements the following schemes/programmes **to attract youth towards agriculture** and other related industries and for the development of entrepreneurship: (i) Establishment of Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres (AC&ABC), (ii) Skill training programmes (minimum 200 hours duration) for Rural Youth and Farmers including women farmers, (iii) Skill Training of Rural Youth (STRY), (iv) Certified Farm Advisor/Certified Livestock Advisor programme, (v) Post Graduate Diploma in Management (Agri Business Management) [PGDM (ABM)], (vi) Venture Capital Assistance scheme through Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC).

In addition, The Government is aware of the importance of **Agriculture Exports** for improving incomes of the Indian farmers and hence had introduced a comprehensive **Agriculture Export Policy** in 2018 with the following objectives: -.

- i. To diversify our export basket, destinations and boost high-value and value-added agricultural exports including focus on perishables.
- ii. To promote novel, indigenous, organic, ethnic, traditional and non-traditional agri products exports.
- iii. To provide an institutional mechanism for pursuing market access, tackling barriers and deal with sanitary and phytosanitary issues.
- iv. To strive to double India's share in world agri exports by integrating with global value chain at the earliest.
- v. Enable farmers to get benefit of export opportunities in overseas market

The Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), an autonomous organisation under the administrative control of Department of Commerce, has the mandate to promote exports of agricultural and processed food products. APEDA has been providing assistance to the exporters under various components of its Export Promotion Scheme. The Department of Commerce provides financial assistance to promote exports, including exports of agricultural products through Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme, Export Promotion Schemes of APEDA and Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) etc.

(c): Loan of an amount of Rs 15626 crore have been sanctioned under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund to create 21380 no. infrastructure units at an aggregate investment of more than Rs 32000 crore all over the country as on 31.01.2023. **The State/UT wise details are attached as Annexure.**

Annexure

State-wise loan sanctioned under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF)

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

| SN | State/ UT | Total sanctioned | |
|----|---|------------------|---------------|
| | | No. | Amount |
| 1 | Madhya Pradesh | 5,126 | 3,951 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 1,875 | 1,969 |
| 3 | Maharashtra | 2,857 | 1,566 |
| 4 | Rajasthan | 1,191 | 1,106 |
| 5 | Telangana | 721 | 832 |
| 6 | Karnataka | 1,502 | 853 |
| 7 | Gujarat | 995 | 846 |
| 8 | Uttar Pradesh | 1,373 | 846 |
| 9 | Tamil Nadu | 768 | 639 |
| 10 | Haryana | 693 | 599 |
| 11 | Punjab | 1,081 | 529 |
| 12 | West Bengal | 854 | 380 |
| 13 | Kerala | 496 | 300 |
| 14 | Chhattisgarh | 486 | 367 |
| 15 | Bihar | 278 | 244 |
| 16 | Odisha | 453 | 220 |
| 17 | Assam | 147 | 148 |
| 18 | Uttarakhand | 212 | 108 |
| 19 | Himachal Pradesh | 93 | 40 |
| 20 | Jharkhand | 81 | 35 |
| 21 | Goa | 8 | 7 |
| 22 | Delhi | 6 | 6 |
| 23 | Jammu and Kashmir | 46 | 17 |
| 24 | Arunachal Pradesh | 2 | 2 |
| 25 | Chandigarh | 2 | 4 |
| 26 | MEGHALAYA | 1 | 2 |
| 27 | Mizoram | 3 | 2 |
| 28 | Nagaland | 11 | 3 |
| 29 | Sikkim | 11 | 1 |
| 32 | The Dadra And Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu | 1 | 1 |
| 33 | Andaman And Nicobar Islands | 3 | 0.3 |
| 34 | Manipur | 2 | 0.4 |
| 35 | Tripura | 1 | 2 |
| 36 | Puducherry | 1 | 1 |
| | Grand Total | 21,380 | 15,626 |

*The figures include in-principle sanction of NABARD
