

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1964**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST, 2023

**ADDRESSING AGRICULTURAL ISSUES**

1964. SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government concurs with the view that the issue of wastages and increase in the income from agriculture can be addressed if proper technologies are developed and made accessible at the farm level;
- (b) if so, the details of the steps that are proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): The Government of India supports and facilitates the State Governments through various Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes to promote agriculture throughout the country and infusing technologies into the agriculture sector with a view to reduce wastages and increase the income of farmers. The technologies include equipments and machines for precision farming, tillage and land preparation, sowing and planting, irrigation, crop protection, harvesting and threshing, post production, processing and & on farm value addition, crop residue management etc.

Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) is being implemented through the State Governments w.e.f. 2014-15, with the major objectives of increasing the reach of farm mechanization to small and marginal farmers & to the regions where availability of farm power is low and promoting 'Custom Hiring Centres' to offset the adverse economies of scale arising due to small landholding and high cost of individual ownership on equipments and machines. Under this scheme, financial assistance @ 40% to 50% of the cost, depending on the categories of farmers, is provided for purchase of various

equipments and machines including drones. Financial assistance @ 40% of the project cost is also provided to rural youth & farmer as an entrepreneur, Cooperative Societies of Farmers, Registered Farmers Societies, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Panchayats for establishment of Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) and Hi-tech hubs of high value agricultural machines and equipments. Financial assistance @ 80% of the project cost for the projects costing up to Rs. 10 Lakhs is provided to the Cooperative Societies, Registered Farmer Societies, FPOs and Panchayats for setting up of village level Farm Machinery Banks (FMBs). The rate of financial assistance for the North Eastern States for establishment of FMBs is @95% of the project cost for the projects costing up to Rs. 10 lakhs. To encourage the use of these various technologies and spread its awareness among the farmers, various activities are undertaken which include on-farm testing to identify location specific technologies under various farming systems, frontline demonstrations of improved agricultural technologies on the farmers' fields, capacity building programmes, farm advisories using various Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) etc.

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