

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION No-2058
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1ST AUGUST, 2023

PROJECTS CREATED UNDER AIF

2058. **SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH :**

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

- (a): the details of the recent initiatives undertaken by the Government to promote the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) worth Rs. 1 lakh crore;
- (b) the objectives and targets of the new campaign for banks under Agri Infra Fund, titled BHARAT
- (c) the guidance and support provided by the Government to the banks to achieve targets considering the vast potential for agri-infra projects in the country;
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to assess the impact of the projects created under the AIF at the ground level;
- (e) the number of agricultural infrastructure projects that have been created and their geographical distribution since the inception of AIF, the total loan amount disbursed under AIF
- (f) the strategy to disburse the remaining amount by the financial year 2025-26 and to continue the interest subvention and credit guarantee assistance till the year 2032-33?

ANSWER

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

(a): Various types of programmes in physical and virtual mode with different stakeholders are being conducted at regular intervals to popularise the AIF Scheme and spread awareness. Such initiatives include FPOs & PACS workshop, workshop for State officials, Master Trainer sessions for Banks and for State Government officials, training sessions for Bank branch officials, potential customers meet of banks and sessions for DDMS/LDMs.

MoA&FW also conducts skill development programmes at Bankers' Training Colleges on physical mode and awareness sessions with Bank officials all over on VC mode for promoting AIF Scheme. Again AIF State Conclaves are being conducted in

various States, which increased the flow of applications in the AIF Portal to a large extent. Apart from this, sensitisation initiatives are being undertaken by conducting Agri-Business Conclave, setting up Stalls in all Exhibitions at various States and the national Capital, Participating in Farmers Fairs and number of Workshops by State level PMUs.

State Project Monitoring Units (SPMU) have been set up by the Ministry in 18 States for providing hand holding support and consultation to beneficiaries in preparing viable DPRs. Periodic review meetings are being conducted with State Nodal Officers, SPMU Team and Banks' Nodal Officers to ensure effective monitoring of the AIF Scheme.

To further accelerate progress, Special campaigns are being launched among Banks and one such on-going BHARAT (Banks Heraldin Accelerated Rural and Agricultural Transformation) Campaign is under progress with a view to put the Bankers on mission mode and to instil competitive spirit in order to increase sanction under AIF.

Recently four new activities viz: Integrated Spirulina production & processing units, Sericulture processing unit, Honey processing and Plant quarantine units were made eligible under AIF in order to bring more farmers and agri-entrepreneurs under the banner of AIF. There has been perpetual improvement in the Scheme to suit to its stakeholders and make it more acceptable to all and connect more players in to the ecosystem to fulfil the objectives underlying this ambitious programme.

With a view to attract prospective young entrepreneurs towards agriculture, AIF Scheme is brought under social media platforms like Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn which is active with an aggregate followers of around 34,000, wherein interactions with various stakeholders are done on real time.

(b): In order to instill a competitive spirit among Banks to convert it in to acceleration in the progress of Agri Infra Fund, a month-long BHARAT (Bankers Heraldin Accelerated Rural & Agriculture Transformation) Campaign was launched with a target of Rs 7200 Crore. The said target is distributed among the commercial Banks in public and private Sector, Regional Rural Banks, SFBs, NBFCs and select cooperative Banks. The objective of the campaign is to create competitive spirit among banks to mobilise agriculture infrastructure projects at a faster pace.

(c): Every Bank has been advised by the MoA&FW to nominate an AIF Nodal Officer in the Head Office for coordination and communication in order to take care of all aspects of AIF Scheme from submission of application to reimbursement of Scheme benefits. Ministry conducts skill development programmes at Bankers' Training Colleges on physical mode and awareness sessions on AIF Scheme with Bank officials from Head Offices and controlling offices of various Banks on VC mode to promote the Scheme. Periodical meeting is being conducted with the Nodal Officers for reviewing progress and providing handholding support. Special award giving ceremonies are also organised to acknowledge the contribution of top performing Bank Executives and their Team members. Social media groups comprising Banks' AIF Teams serve as the fast mode of communication for sorting out issues and providing handholding support.

(d): The Ministry has proposed a sample study of completed Projects by third party.

(e): A total of 32514 projects worth total loan of Rs 25356 Crore have been sanctioned under AIF since its inception. Out of this, an amount of Rs 15,448 crore has been disbursed for 27748 projects. Out of the total projects sanctioned under the scheme 19650 number of projects has been fully disbursed reflecting the total number infrastructure projects completed throughout the country, the details of which according to geographical distribution is given at **Annexure**.

(f): In order to disburse the remaining amount by the financial year 2025-26 and to continue the interest subvention and credit guarantee assistance till the year 2032-33, Ministry has been putting efforts to popularise the Scheme in a big way by organising more State Conclaves in the coming days involving large number of stakeholders. Bank Campaigns will be conducted at regular intervals and workshops with FPOs, PACS, State officials, Bank officials and other stake holders will be organised at frequent intervals to identify and implement infrastructure projects that align with the needs of local farmers and promote collective development.

Nationwide awareness campaigns in collaboration with Banks will be launched to educate farmers, agri-entrepreneurs, and stakeholders about the benefits of the Agri Infra Fund. Social media will be used extensively by launching various campaigns involving agri entrepreneurs, start-ups and other stake holders. Widespread publicity through Banks and lending institutions will be carried out to encourage smart and precision agriculture involving new-Gen technology like use of drone, AI in agriculture.

Ministry plans to participate in various agri expo events, Conclaves in collaboration with merchant associations and industry federations, setting up Stalls at various Exhibitions in State and national level in order to meet potential Investors to pitch in the idea of agriculture Infrastructure. Connecting with the existing as well as prospective Bank customers in collaboration with various lending institutions is expected to draw new potential investors in to the fold of AIF to broaden its reach.

By implementing these measures, the Agri Infra Fund is expected to gain momentum and play a significant role in improving agricultural infrastructure, enhancing productivity, and boosting rural development in India.

Annexure

State wise Detail of Completed Projects

(Amount in Rs Crores)

S.no	State	Number of Projects	Approved Amount	Disbursed Amount
1	MADHYA PRADESH	3909	2,707	2,707
2	MAHARASHTRA	2424	901	901
3	UTTAR PRADESH	1175	691	691
4	PUNJAB	3519	650	650
5	RAJASTHAN	642	641	641
6	TELANGANA	637	572	572
7	GUJARAT	751	552	552
8	KARNATAKA	975	529	529
9	HARYANA	569	433	433
10	WEST BENGAL	808	400	400
11	TAMIL NADU	2148	397	397
12	ANDHRA PRADESH	367	295	295
13	CHHATTISGARH	299	270	270
14	ODISHA	341	176	176
15	KERALA	536	143	143
16	BIHAR	156	110	110
17	ASSAM	73	67	67
18	HIMACHAL PRADESH	144	38	38
19	UTTARAKHAND	70	34	34
20	JHARKHAND	75	33	33
21	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	23	11	11
22	MEGHALAYA	1	6	6
23	THE DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI AND DAMAN AND DIU	1	1	1
24	DELHI	2	1	1
25	PUDUCHERRY	1	1	1
26	GOA	3	1	1
27	MANIPUR	1	0.27	0.27
	Total	19650	9660	9660
