

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2384**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2024

**PROMOTION OF PALM OIL FARMING**

2384. SHRI RAMASAHAYAM RAGHURAM REDDY:-

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

- (a) whether the Government plans to launch a dedicated programme for the promotion of palm oil farming;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government plans to introduce a new programme for developing techniques for sustainable palm oil farming, particularly to address the concerns regarding falling water table in Telangana;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government plans to announce a scheme to encourage exports of palm oil; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI BHAGIRATH CHAUDHARY)

(a): The Government of India is already implementing a centrally sponsored scheme namely National Mission on Edible Oils - Oil Palm (NMEO-OP), since August 2021 for promoting oil palm farming, with a total approved outlay of Rs 11,040 crore for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26.

(b): The NMEO-OP strives to boost oil palm cultivation in the country through area expansion, production inputs, market support and technology transfer. It provides assistance for planting, intercropping, irrigation, mechanization, and replanting, alongside price assurance through viability gap funding to the farmers. The scheme also promotes new technologies, farmer training, and infrastructure development to enhance productivity and efficiency.

(c) & (d): Oil palm farming under the NMEO-OP prioritizes sustainability by strictly prohibiting deforestation and restricting plantations to existing agricultural lands. As per Indian Council of Agricultural Research-Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research, Oil Palm cultivation does not adversely affect the underground water availability and it requires less water compared to crops like Banana, Sugarcane and Rice. Besides, drip irrigation and water harvesting structures alongwith oil palm plantation is being promoted under NMEO-OP, in all the states including Telangana by way of subsidy to ensure optimum utilisation of water.

(e) & (f): No such plan under-consideration.

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