

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2523
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH DECEMBER, 2024

NEW POLICY INITIATIVES IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR

2523. SHRI T R BAALU:

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

- (a) is Ministry launched any new policy initiatives and corresponding new programmes for faster and wider development of agriculture in the country by the new Union Government takeover;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the deficiencies in previous policy framework;
- (c) the details of how the new policy would enhance the farmers' welfare;
- (d) whether the Government would provide financial assistance to States for giving free electricity to the farmers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): Agriculture being a State subject, Government of India supports the efforts of States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary allocation under various schemes/ programmes. The various schemes/ programmes of the Government of India are meant for the welfare of farmers by increasing production, remunerative returns and income support to farmers. For faster and wider development of agriculture in the country, in the new Government the Union Cabinet has approved following programmes:

- i. **Clean plant Programme:** The Union Cabinet, approved the Clean Plant Programme (CPP) on 09.08.2024 with outlay of Rs. 1765.67 crore. The CPP aims to enhance the quality and productivity of horticulture crops by providing disease free planting material and will benefit dissemination and adoption of climate resilient varieties, with yield enhancement.
- ii. **Digital Agriculture Mission:** The Union Cabinet approved the Digital Agriculture Mission on 2.9.2024 with an outlay of Rs. 2817 Crore, including the central share of Rs. 1940 Crore. The Mission is conceived as an umbrella scheme to support digital agriculture initiatives, such as creating Digital Public Infrastructure, implementing the

Digital General Crop Estimation Survey (DGCES), and taking up other IT initiatives by the Central Government, State Governments, and Academic and Research Institutions.

- iii. **Progressive expansion of Agriculture Infrastructure Fund Scheme:** The Union Cabinet approved the progressive expansion of Agriculture Infrastructure fund (AIF) on 28.8.2024 to enhance and strengthen the agricultural infrastructure in the country and support the farming community by expanding the scope of eligible projects and integrate additional supportive measures to foster a robust agricultural infrastructure ecosystem. Expanded scope includes allowing individual eligible beneficiaries for creation of infrastructure covered under 'viable projects for building community farming assets', integrated processing projects, convergence of PM Kusum 'A'.
- iv. **National Mission on Edible Oils – Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds):** The Union Cabinet approved the National Mission on Edible Oils – Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds) on 3.10.2024 with total outlay of **Rs.10,103 Crore**. It aims to boost domestic oilseed production and achieving self-reliance in edible oils. The Mission will be implemented over a seven-year period, from 2024-25 to 2030-31.
- v. **National Mission on Natural Farming:** The Union Cabinet approved the National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) on 25.11.2024 as a standalone Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The scheme has a total outlay of Rs.2481 crore (Government of India share – Rs.1584 crore; State share – Rs.897 crore).

Moreover, following significant programmes have also been initiated during 2024-25.

- i. National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS)
- ii. AgriSURE – Agri Fund for Start Ups & Rural Enterprises
- iii. Krishi Nivesh Portal (Phase –I)
- iv. Krishi-DSS Portal – A Geospatial platform for Indian Agriculture
- v. Introduction of Voluntary Carbon Market (VCM) for various sustainable agriculture practices

(d) & (e): There is no such proposal under consideration.
