

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4011
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH MARCH, 2025

BENEFICIARIES OF PM-KISAN IN KERALA

4011. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

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

- (a) whether there is any quantitative and qualitative data about the reduction in eligible beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Yojana in Kerala from early 2022 to late 2024;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the figures of and percentage increase in ineligible beneficiaries from early 2022 to November 2024;
- (d) the implications for the PM-KISAN due to this shift in beneficiary numbers;
- (e) the comparative data on beneficiary ratios in States with higher agricultural dependency versus Kerala's notably low figure (18% agricultural households) along with potential corrective measures;
- (f) whether the Government has implemented mechanisms in place to detect such irregularities; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (g): The PM-KISAN scheme is a central sector scheme launched in February 2019 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to supplement the financial needs of cultivable land-holding farmers. Under the scheme, a financial benefit of Rs 6,000/- per year is transferred in three equal instalments, into the Aadhaar seeded bank accounts of farmers through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.

A farmer-centric digital infrastructure has ensured the benefits of the scheme reach all the farmers across the country without involvement of any intermediaries. Maintaining

absolute transparency in registering and verifying beneficiaries, the Government of India has disbursed over Rs 3.68 lakh Cr. through 19 installments since inception. Out of which, Rs. 11,806.93 crore was released to the beneficiaries of Kerala.

Benefits of the scheme are transferred to the beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode, based on the verified data received from the States/UTs on the PM-KISAN portal. The scheme initially started on a trust-based system, where beneficiaries were registered by the states on self-certification basis. Initially, Aadhaar seeding was also relaxed for some of the States. Later on, to address this, several technological interventions were introduced, including integration with PFMS, UIDAI, and the Income Tax Department. Further, land seeding was made mandatory along with Aadhaar based payment and e-KYC. The benefits of the farmers, who did not complete these mandatory criteria, were stopped. As and when these farmers complete their mandatory requirements and meet the eligibility criteria, they receive the benefits of the scheme along with their due installments, if any.

In this process, the total numbers of beneficiaries benefited in the scheme in the 12th Instalment period were decreased across the States. This decrease was nominal in the States who proactively undertook suitable measures and completed the above said mandatory requirements. For Kerala State the no. of beneficiaries decreased from 34.62 lakh during the 11th instalment cycle (April – July 2022) to 20.01 lakh during the 12th instalment cycle (August – November 2022) as the State were able to complete land seeding for only 20.01 lakh beneficiaries. In the 19th instalment cycle (Dec'24 – Mar'25), the no. of beneficiaries in Kerala increased to 28.78 lakh.

The Ministry often undertakes saturation drives in coordination with the State Governments to ensure that no eligible farmers are left out from the Scheme. The major nationwide saturation drive was undertaken from 15th November 2023, under the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY), to saturate the scheme with all eligible farmers. More than 1.0 Cr. farmers were covered during the VBSY campaign across the country. Further, under the new Government's 100 days initiative, around 25 lakh more eligible farmers were added under the PM-KISAN scheme. Additionally, a special drive was conducted from September 2024 to clear the self-registration pending cases. Under the drive since inception, over 30 lakh pending self-registration cases have been approved by the State/UT. With these efforts, over 4.70 lakh new farmers have been added in the scheme in the Kerala.

With these efforts, during the release of 19th Instalment of PM-Kisan, more than 9.8 crore beneficiaries received the benefit amounting to over Rs. 22,000 crore.
