

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 429**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2025

**FARM MECHANIZATION**

429. SHRI AZAD KIRTI JHA:

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

- (a) the current level of farm mechanization in the country;
- (b) the time by when the country is likely to attain 75% farm mechanization;
- (c) whether any mechanism is laid down to ensure that farm mechanization benefits small and marginal farmers and if so the details thereof;
- (d) whether any study has been conducted to assess the challenges of farm mechanization in the country;
- (e) if so, the details and findings thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the details of major challenges, if any, in attaining 100% farm mechanization in the country?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (f): The adoption of mechanization by the farmers of various States depends on varying factors such as socio-economic conditions, geographical conditions, crops grown, irrigation facilities etc. As per the estimates of 2020-21 of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), agricultural mechanization level varies across different crops and their farm operations in the country. Overall, the operation-wise average mechanization levels across crops are 70% for seed-bed preparation, 40% for sowing/planting/transplanting, 32% for weeding and inter-culture, and 34% for harvesting and threshing, resulting in an overall average mechanization level of 47%. The Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2022-23) on the subject 'Research and Development in Farm Mechanization for Small and Marginal Farmers in the Country' in its 58<sup>th</sup> Report emphasized to achieve mechanization level of 75% by the year 2047.

The emphasis of the Government is always to promote farm mechanization for all section of the society with the aim of increasing the reach of farm mechanization to small and marginal farmers and to the regions where availability of farm power is low and promoting 'Custom Hiring Centers' to offset the adverse economies of scale arising due to small land holding and high cost of individual ownership of machines.

The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) through the State Governments is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization' (SMAM) w.e.f. 2014-15. Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to the farmers for purchase of agricultural machines and equipments on individual ownership basis. Financial assistance is also provided for establishment of Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) and Village Level Farm Machinery Banks (FMBs) in order to provide machines and equipments to the farmers on rental basis as per their requirements. Crop Residue Management Scheme is implemented from 2018-19 in order to support the efforts of the Governments of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi to address air pollution and to subsidize machinery required for management of crop residue. The Government has approved 'Namo Drone Didi' as Central Sector Scheme for providing 15,000 drones to the Women Self Help Groups (SHGs) during the period from 2023-24 to 2025-26 for providing rental services to farmers for agriculture purpose.

Some of the major challenges of increasing the farm mechanization levels as emerged through the impact evaluation studies of the SMAM (2018-19) are small and fragmented land holdings, hilly terrain and diverse soil conditions, diversified agro climatic conditions and cropping patterns, high cost of machines etc. The DA&FW has already entrusted a study on 'Assessment of Status of Farm Mechanization and Custom Hiring in India' in 2024-25 to the ICAR.

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