

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 328**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025

**DIVERSIFICATION OF KHARIF CULTIVATION**

\*328. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL

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

- (a) whether the Government is taking steps to encourage farmers to diversify Kharif cultivation by including coarse grains and oilseeds along with paddy;
- (b) if so, the details of schemes or incentives available to promote the cultivation of coarse grains, millets and oilseeds during the Kharif season, especially in Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) whether the Government is conducting awareness or training programmes through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) or agricultural universities to educate farmers about the agronomic and economic benefits of such diversification, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government has taken steps to ensure fair procurement prices, market access and value chain support for coarse grains and oilseed crops and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 328 FOR 12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025 REGARDING  
“DIVERSIFICATION OF KHARIF CULTIVATION”**

(a) to (d) The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing the Crop Diversification Programme (CDP) under the Pradhan Mantri- Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) in the Original Green Revolution States viz; Haryana, Punjab & Uttar Pradesh since 2013-14 to divert the area of Kharif paddy crop to alternative crops like pulses, oilseeds, coarse cereals, nutri cereals, etc. CDP was extended for diversifying tobacco crop in the major tobacco growing states of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal from 2015-16. Under CDP, assistance is given for alternative crop demonstration, farm mechanization and value addition items, site specific activities and for awareness, training etc.

Further, Government of India is encouraging farmers through the state governments including Uttar Pradesh to grow crops such as pulses, coarse cereals, millets, nutri cereals (Shree Anna) under the National Food Security & Nutrition Mission (NFSNM), oilseeds under the National Mission on Edible Oil (NMEO)-Oilseeds and horticultural crops under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). The Government of India also provides flexibility to the states, for state specific needs/priorities under the Pradhan Mantri – Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY). The states can promote crop diversification under the PM-RKVY with the approval of State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC).

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has set up 731 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country including 89 KVKs in Uttar Pradesh to promote adoption of new technologies of agriculture and allied sectors (including coarse grains and oilseeds of Kharif seasons) through technology assessment, demonstration and capacity development among the extension functionaries of state governments and farmers. The Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) Scheme is being implemented across the country including Uttar Pradesh and is aimed at supporting State Government's efforts in creating awareness among large number of farmers about new technologies and good agricultural practices in different thematic areas of agriculture and allied areas, including Crop Diversification, Integrated Farming System, Climate-resilient agricultural practices & Natural Farming etc. through different extension activities viz; Farmers Training, Demonstrations, Exposure Visits, Kisan Mela, Mobilization of Farmers Groups and Organizing Farm Schools etc.

The Government fixes minimum support prices (MSPs) for 22 mandated agricultural crops including coarse cereals, pulses, oilseeds etc to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce. To improve the farmers' market access for agricultural produce, including coarse cereals and oilseed crops, the Government has taken many steps, namely (i) promoting the establishment of private markets, farmer-consumer markets, direct wholesale purchases by processors/ exporters/other bulk buyers from farm gate and declaring warehouses as market-yard; (ii) expanding outreach of e-NAM in the mandis and beyond the mandis and (iii) promoting FPOs, specially commodity specific FPOs for oilseed and millets to provide the market linkage to the farmer-members of these FPOs. Apart from this, the Government is also strengthening post-harvest and marketing infrastructure under various schemes namely Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) under the Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) scheme, Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

As per Guidelines of Department of Food and Public Distribution on procurement, allocation, distribution and disposal of coarse grains, States are allowed to procure Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Barley, Ragi and six minor millets from farmers at MSP under the central pool subject to the prior approval of Government of India, in consultation with Food Corporation of India (FCI). Procurement of oilseeds is made at MSP under the scheme "Pradhan Mantri - Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan" (PM-AASHA) of DA&FW. Under the National Mission on Edible Oils – Oilseeds (NMEO-OS), over 600 Value Chain Clusters have been identified across the country. In addition, the mission supports Government/Private industries, FPOs and cooperatives for setting up post-harvest infrastructure including improving the capacity or efficiency of existing infrastructure, for increasing the efficiency of oilseed collection, oil extraction & recovery.

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