

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 324**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 22<sup>ND</sup> JULY, 2025

**CULTIVATION OF LESS WATER-INTENSIVE CROPS**

324. SMT. MAHIMA KUMARI MEWAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government has initiated any policy measures to promote cultivation of less water-intensive crops and to create awareness among farmers regarding various water management techniques for agriculture in the country, including Rajasthan; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b): 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 and western Uttar Pradesh to divert the area of water intensive paddy crop to alternative crops like pulses, oilseeds, coarse cereals, nutri-cereals (shree anna) etc. Under the CDP, assistance is given for alternative crops demonstration, farm mechanization and value addition, site-specific activities, awareness, farmers training etc.

The DA&FW also supplements the efforts of state governments including Rajasthan to encourage diversified production of crops such as pulses, coarse cereals and nutri-cereals (shree anna) under the National Food Security & Nutrition Mission (NFSNM), oilseeds under the National Mission on Edible Oil-Oilseeds (NMEO-OS) 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 PM-RKVY. The states can promote less water intensive crops under the PM-RKVY with the approval of State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) headed by the Chief Secretary of the respective states.

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