

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3880
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12th August, 2025

IMPACT OF CROP DIVERSIFICATION ON FARMERS' INCOME

3880. SHRI RODMAL NAGAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:-

- (a) the progress made in promoting crop diversification since 2014, including the details of crops promoted and their impact on farmers' income;
- (b) the details of financial/technical assistance provided for low water/high-value crops to farmers in Madhya Pradesh, particularly in districts like Rajgarh;
- (c) the new technologies and digital platforms which have been introduced for real time advisory and market linkage for diversified crops;
- (d) the measures to promote sustainable agricultural practices including organic/natural farming, efficient water use and the manner under which these contributed to reduce the input costs of farmers; and
- (e) the future roadmap for strengthening Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and agri-startups for value addition and export of diversified agricultural produce?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAM NATH 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) through State Governments in three states i.e. Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh to primarily divert the area of water intensive crop paddy to alternative crops like pulses, oilseeds, coarse cereals, nutri-cereals, cotton. CDP was extended to diversifying tobacco crop in 10 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 being provided to farmers through implementing state Governments for alternate crop demonstration, farm mechanization and value addition, site specific activities and for awareness, training etc. CDP aims at demonstrating alternative crops at farmers' field and the area brought under demonstrations is 6.96 lakh hectare during 2013-14 to 2024-25. However, CDP is not implemented in Madhya Pradesh.

Further, Government of India is also encouraging farmers through state governments including Madhya Pradesh to grow crops such as pulses, coarse cereals, nutri cereals (Shree Anna) under the National Food Security & Nutrition Mission (NFSNM), oilseeds under the National Mission on Edible Oil (NMEO)-Oilseeds, horticultural crops under the Mission for Integrated Development of horticulture (MIDH). Under MIDH, assistance is provided for promotion of smart farming methods like Protected cultivation, i.e. poly house, green-house, etc to improve the productivity & grow off season high value vegetables and flowers.

(c) Government is implementing National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), an online trading platform, launched in 2016, which provides market linkage to 1522 APMCs nationwide, real-time electronic trading of 238 diversified commodities. It facilitates online trading between farmers, traders & buyers and provide real time information. Government has taken up steps to provide advisory and training through various digital platforms namely mKisan, Kisan e-Mitra, AI-enabled chatbot etc to reach out to the farmers in all states/UTs.

(d) The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), to make agriculture more resilient to the changing climate. Several schemes have been initiated under NMSA to promote sustainability in agriculture in the country. Organic farming is being promoted through Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) in all states except North Eastern States, where Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) is being implemented.

(e) Central Sector Scheme for “Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations” to form & promote FPOs has been implemented since 2020. Under the scheme, FPO management cost of Rs.18 lakh over 5 years is available to each FPO registered under the Scheme. FPO can also avail matching equity grant of upto Rs.15 lakh per FPO (as against Rs.2000 contribution per farmer). Additionally, the scheme provides for credit guarantee facility up to Rs.2 crore, from eligible lending institutions. FPOs are supported with training, market linkage & convergence with other government schemes. 5,315 FPOs have been on boarded on ONDC portal for selling their products. Government of India is also implementing “Innovation and Agri-Entrepreneurship Development” Programme under PM-RKVY to promote innovation and agri-entrepreneurship by providing financial support and nurturing an incubation ecosystem in the country.
