

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1537
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 9TH DECEMBER, 2025

SPECIAL PROJECT ON COTTON AND SOYBEAN UNDER NFSM

1537. SHRI ARVIND GANPAT SAWANT:
SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:

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

- (a) the details of funds released for special projects related to cotton and soybean under the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of clusters and districts identified for implementation of special project on cotton and soybean, especially those in Maharashtra;
- (c) the details of clusters where High Density Planting System (HDPS) and Closer Spaced Planting System for cotton which have been successfully implemented, especially those in Maharashtra;
- (d) the details of special schemes being implemented by the Government to uplift soybean farmers; and
- (e) whether the Government has conducted any assessment of the specific project to evaluate the improvement in cotton and soybean productivity through project interventions, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): A Special Project on Cotton titled 'Targeting technologies to agro-ecological zones- large scale demonstrations of best practices to enhance cotton productivity' is being implemented by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)- Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur from 2023-24 under National Food Security & Nutrition Mission (NFSNM)

[erstwhile National Food Security Mission (NFSM)]. An amount of Rs. 2093.42 lakhs, Rs. 2548.94 lakhs and Rs. 1508.08 lakhs has been released to ICAR-CICR, Nagpur during 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 (till November, 2025), respectively, for implementing the project. The project is being implemented in major cotton growing states including Maharashtra.

(b) & (c): The details of districts and clusters covered under Special Project on Cotton is given below:

Year	All India		Maharashtra		HDPS in Maharashtra		Closer Spacing (CS) in Maharashtra	
	Districts	Clusters	Districts	Clusters	Districts	Clusters	Districts	Clusters
2023-24	61	373	16	74	9	40	16	66
2024-25	65	461	16	115	11	62	15	105
2025-26	65	412	17	121	10	60	15	106

(d): The Government has approved the National Mission on Edible Oils- Oilseeds (NMEO-OS), on 3rd October, 2024 to boost domestic oilseed production and to strive towards self-reliance (Atmanirbhar Bharat) in edible oils in the country for implementation all over the country including Maharashtra over a seven-year period, from 2024-25 to 2030-31. The objective of NMEO-Oilseeds is to enhance the production of key primary oilseed crops such as Soybean, Rapeseed-Mustard, Groundnut, Sunflower, Sesamum, Niger, Castor and Linseed as well as increasing collection, extraction and recovery efficiency from secondary sources like Cottonseed, Rice Bran, Corn oil and Tree Borne Oils.

(e): The average productivity of cotton in the demonstrated plots of High Density Planting System (HDPS) technology and Closer Spacing (CS) technology has increased by 30.40% & 39.15%, respectively during 2023-24 and by 39.81% & 32.45%, respectively during 2024-25 over conventional practice under the special project on cotton.
