

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2878
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH MARCH 2026

RUBBER CHAIN HARVESTERS

2878. SHRI SUDHAKAR SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that in many districts of Bihar, including Buxar, Kaimur and Rohtas, waterlogging and high humidity during paddy harvesting are preventing tyre-mounted harvesters from working effectively, leading to delayed harvesting, delayed wheat sowing, and heat termination problems, thereby affecting production and farmers' income;
- (b) whether rubber-chain harvesters are more useful in wet and muddy fields and can ensure timely harvesting;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to increase the subsidy on rubber-chain harvesters to 710 lakh or more; and
- (d) if so, the current status thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): The Buxar, Kaimur, Rohtas belt is a major paddy-growing region in Bihar. As per the information provided by the Directorate of Agriculture, Government of Bihar, these areas have the access of canal water and hence the large area under paddy crop remains waterlogged that affects harvesting, leading to delayed sowing of wheat and heat termination.

Track-type (rubber-chain) combine harvesters operate better in waterlogged fields. Financial assistance under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) is also provided on track-type (rubber-chain) combine harvesters under the Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) projects. The financial assistance for establishing CHCs is provided to Rural Entrepreneurs (Rural youth and farmer as an entrepreneur), DAY-NRLM Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Panchayats, Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies/ Cooperative Societies of Farmers (Agriculture/Horticulture/ Makhana etc.) as under:

Type of combine harvester	Pattern of Assistance	Maximum permissible subsidy per machine (Rs. in Lakhs)
(i) Combine Harvester (Track Type)- <6 feet cutter bar width	40%	6.72
(ii) Combine Harvester (Track Type)- > 6 feet cutter bar width	40%	10.00