

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 509
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD FEBRUARY, 2026

PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES IN WARDHA

509. SHRI AMAR SHARADRAO KALE:

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

- (a) the details of the steps being taken to promote sustainable agricultural practices in the Wardha Parliamentary Constituency and the manner in which farmers are being encouraged to adopt these practices;
- (b) the manner in which the Government proposes to enhance irrigation infrastructure in the Wardha Parliamentary Constituency keeping in view crisis of water scarcity in the region;
- (c) the details of the measures taken to assist farmers in Wardha district facilitating their easy access to market and improving their market linkages; and
- (d) the manner in which the Government proposes to address soil health issues in the said district mind the initiatives being taken to promote organic farming practices in the region?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (d): Government is implementing National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), to promote sustainable agriculture practices in the country including State of Maharashtra. Several schemes have been initiated under NMSA to encourage farmers to adopt sustainable agriculture practices. As reported by State Government of Maharashtra, following schemes are being implemented in District of Wardha promoting sustainable practices:

- i. Nanaji Deshmukh Krishi Sanjeevani Project Phase 2.0 (POCRA) to promote climate resilient agriculture.
- ii. Chief Minister's Sustainable Agriculture Irrigation Scheme promoting micro

- irrigation.
- iii. Jalyukt Shivar Abhiyan 2.0 promoting soil and water conservation.
 - iv. Chief Minister's Sustainable Agriculture Irrigation Scheme promoting creation of Farm Ponds.
 - v. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Krushi Swavlamban Yojna and
 - vi. Birsa Munda Krishi Kranti Yojana assisting farmers for creation of wells.

Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Water Resources has been implementing Pradhan Mandi Krishi Sinchay Yojana (PMKSY) to expand cultivable area under assured irrigation. The Scheme has two components- Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), and Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP). Lower Wardha Project benefitting Wardha Parliamentary Constituency has been included under PMKSY-AIBP. Under this project, irrigation Potential of 63.33 thousand hectare has been created. Further, a Special Package for Irrigation Projects in Maharashtra was approved in 2018. Shirur Minor Irrigation Tank benefitting Wardha district has been included under Special Package. Irrigation potential of 1065 hectare has been created under this project. The Government also implements Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme for promoting water use efficiency through drip and sprinkler irrigation systems. In Wardha District till date, 23,297 hectares has been covered under micro irrigation under PDMC Scheme.

Government is providing support to farmers to facilitate their easy access to markets and to strengthen market linkages through its schemes of "Formulation and Promotion of 10000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and e-National Agriculture Market (e-NAM). In Wardha District, 15 FPOs have been formed facilitating farmers to sell their produce at fair price through these FPOs. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare also conducts weekly webinars facilitating direct interaction between FPOs and large institutional buyers for exploring business opportunities. FPOs also market their produce online through the Open Network for Digital Commerce platform, enabling wider market access and better price realization for farmers. e-NAM is an online portal which provides real time wholesale prices of agricultural produce to facilitate farmers in informed decision making for sale of their produce. As on date, 4 mandis of Wardha district – Arvi, Hinganghat, Sindi and Wardha are integrated on e-NAM platform.

Government is addressing the issue of soil health through the scheme of Soil Health & Fertility scheme. The scheme promotes Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) through judicious use of chemical fertilizers including secondary and micro nutrients in conjunction with organic manures & bio-fertilizers for improving soil health and its productivity. 32651 Soil Health Cards have been issued in Wardha District from 2023-24 to 2025-26. Besides, Government is also promoting organic through the schemes of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY). From 2016-17 to 2025-26, a total of 105 organic farming clusters have been sanctioned in Wardha district under PKVY, covering an area of 3,144 hectares and benefiting 2,813 farmers.
