

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 36
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST JULY, 2026

CROP DIVERSIFICATION PROGRAMME

*36. SHRI RAJA RAM 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 water shortage in Bihar for cultivation;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to provide special assistance for crop diversification in drought-prone districts of Bihar and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any crop diversification programme has been approved, if so, the details thereof, district-wise;
- (d) the details of funds allocated during the last five years for the drought-prone districts of Bihar along with the expected number of beneficiaries for such schemes, district-wise; and
- (e) whether the Government has reviewed the preparedness for the procurement of Kharif crops during the current season and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 36 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST JULY, 2026 REGARDING “CROP DIVERSIFICATION PROGRAMME”

(a) to (c): As per the Land Use Statistics, during 2024-25, Net Area Sown in State of Bihar was 54.12 lakh ha. Out of this, 35.50 lakh ha area is under irrigation. Further, out of 38 districts in the State, Indian Council of Agricultural Research- Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA) has identified 12 districts, (namely, Begusarai, Bhagalpur, Jamui, Katihar, Kishanganj, Nalanda, Nawada, Patna, Samastipur, Sheikhpura, Sheohar and Sitamarhi) as vulnerable to drought.

Government of India is implementing Crop Diversification Programme (CDP) in original Green Revolution States of Punjab Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh to diversify cropping pattern away from water guzzling paddy. To diversify major tobacco growing areas, the programme has been extended in States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and West Bengal. For holistic, sustainable and diversified development of the agriculture sector, the Government is implementing several other schemes in Bihar, including the drought-prone districts of the State. These include the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), for development of the horticulture sector through support for fruits, vegetables, spices, flowers and other high-value crops and protected cultivation. National Food and Nutrition Security Mission (NFNSM) is implemented to increase the production and productivity of diversified food crops through different interventions such as demonstrations of improved technologies and varieties and trainings to farmers. National Mission on Edible Oils–Oilseeds (NMEO–Oilseeds) is implemented to enhance domestic oilseed production through cluster-based crop cultivation, expanding acreage through rice/potato fallows, providing quality high-yield seeds, building post-harvest extraction infrastructure etc. National Mission for Atmanirbharata in Pulses is implemented to increase pulses production, expand cultivation area, promoting climate-resilient seed varieties and strengthening post-harvest infrastructure to achieve self-sufficiency in pulses.

(d): During the last five years, Central Assistance provided to Bihar under various agricultural and horticultural programmes includes Rs.112.46 crore under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture, Rs.180.114 crore under the National Food and Nutrition Security Mission, Rs.18.59 crore under the National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (Oilseed) and subsequently the National Mission on Edible Oils–Oilseeds (launched

in 2024–25), and Rs.16.25 crore under the National Mission for Atmanirbharata in Pulses (launched in 2025–26). District-wise data and the number of beneficiaries under these programmes are not maintained centrally.

(e): Procurement of crops is made by Department of Food and Public Distribution through Food Corporation of India (FCI) in coordination with State Governments. Before the start of each marketing season, the State Government submits a procurement plan. The plan received from the State Government is discussed in a meeting with the State Food Secretaries, following which the procurement targets are finalized based for the State Government/FCI. During last two years, 1114.38 LMT of rice, 657.92 LMT of wheat and 2.67 LMT of coarse grains were procured through States/FCI.

Government is implementing Price Support Scheme (PSS), Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) under the integrated Scheme of Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) for procurement support to States and farmers in the country which is a demand driven scheme. National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) and National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India (NCCF) undertake 100% procurement of Tur, Urad, and Masoor directly from registered farmers under PSS scheme. 227.97 LMT of pulse and oilseeds have been procured at MSP under Price Support Scheme since 2020-21.
