

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2096**  
ANSWERED ON 09/08/2024

**SCHEMES TO EXPAND CULTIVATION OF COTTON AND BANANA IN  
MAHARASHTRA**

2096. SHRI IMRAN PRATAPGARHI:

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

- (a) whether Government is implementing special schemes for expansion of cotton cultivation in Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the measures being adopted by Government to expand cotton cultivation in Maharashtra;
- (c) the arrangements made for providing technology & training to farmers for expanding cotton cultivation in Maharashtra;
- (d) the schemes being implemented by Government to encourage banana cultivation in Bhusawal; and
- (e) the steps being taken by Government to provide financial assistance to banana growers of Bhusawal?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is implementing cotton development programme under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) in 15 major cotton growing states including Maharashtra from 2014-15 to increase production and productivity of cotton. A special project on cotton entitled 'Targeting technologies to agro-ecological zones-large scale demonstrations of best practices to enhance cotton productivity' of ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur is implemented in 8 states including Maharashtra under NFSM during 2023-24 & 2024-25 to enhance productivity of cotton. Under NFSM, thrust has been given on transfer of technology through demonstrations and training in order to extend benefits to the farmers.

Further, State Government of Maharashtra is implementing State sponsored Special action plan for productivity improvement and value chain development of cotton for 3 years since 2022-23 wherein focus is given on productivity enhancement of cotton & capacity building of farmers, strengthening of seed chain, value chain development and convergence with other ongoing schemes like farm pond, irrigation equipment & mechanization.

(d) & (e): Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented from 2014-15, for holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits (including banana), vegetables, root and tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew and cocoa. All States (including Jalgaon district of Maharashtra) and Union Territories are covered under MIDH scheme.

Under MIDH, for Banana (sucker), assistance is provided @ 40% of the maximum cost of Rs. 2.00 lakh/ha for integrated package with drip irrigation and without integration assistance is @ 40% of the maximum cost of Rs. 0.87 lakh/ha. In case of North Eastern and Himalayan states, Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) areas, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands, assistance is @50% of cost.

In case of Banana (Tissue Culture), assistance is provided @ 40% of the maximum cost of Rs. 3.00 lakh/ha for integrated package with drip irrigation and without integration assistance is @ 40% of the maximum cost of Rs. 1.25 lakh/ha. In case of North Eastern and Himalayan states, TSP areas, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands, assistance is @50% of cost.

Further, State Government of Maharashtra provides financial assistance for banana cultivation through Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

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