

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-509
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29/11/2024

SCHEME TO INCREASE FARM MECHANIZATION

509. DR. SASMIT PATRA:

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

- (a) the overall average mechanization level for crops in the country;
- (b) the mechanization percentage for seed-bed preparation, sowing and planting, weeding and inter-culture, and harvesting and threshing;
- (c) the schemes implemented by Government to increase farm mechanization; and
- (d) the amount of subsidy provided for farm mechanization in the country over the last five years with special reference to Odisha?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (d): The adoption of mechanization by the farmers of various States depends on varying factors such as socio-economic conditions, geographical conditions, crops grown, irrigation facilities etc. As per the estimates of 2020-21 of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), agricultural mechanization level varies across different crops and their farm operation in the country. Overall, the operation-wise average mechanization levels across crops are 70% for seed-bed preparation, 40% for sowing/planting/transplanting, 32% for weeding and inter-culture, and 34% for harvesting and threshing, resulting in an overall average mechanization level of 47%.

The emphasis of the Government is to promote mechanization with the specific aim of increasing the reach of farm mechanization to small and marginal farmers and to the regions where availability of farm power is low and promoting 'Custom Hiring Centers' to offset the adverse economies of scale arising due to small land holding and high cost of individual ownership of agricultural machines. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization' (SMAM) is being implemented through the State Governments w.e.f. 2014-15 under which financial assistance is provided for purchase of agricultural machines and equipments by the farmers on individual ownership basis and for establishment of Custom Hiring Centre (CHC)/High Tech Hub/Farm Machinery Bank (FMB). During the last 5 years (2019-20 to 2023-24), funds amounting to Rs. 4598.37 Crores have been released to various states, which also include the funds amounting to Rs. 124.18 Crores released to the State of Odisha. During the same period, the States have supplied more than 8,62,146 machines and equipments to the farmers on individual ownership basis and more than 35520 CHCs/Hi-tech Hubs/FMBs have been established in various States. The State of Odisha has supplied 34900 machines to the individual farmers and established 47 CHCs/Hi-tech Hubs/FMBs
