

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2423
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21/03/2025

SUBSIDIES FOR STORAGE FACILITIES

2423. SHRI BANSHILAL GURJAR:

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

- (a) the steps taken to increase awareness among small and marginal farmers about subsidy available for storage facilities;
- (b) whether the Ministry is planning to increase the upper limit of Rs. 1.75 lakh so that increased cost of onion storage facilities construction can be adjusted;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Ministry is planning to cover more perishable crops under the scheme in future; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): To create awareness on the various scheme for subsidy for storage among the farming community, the Mass Media Support to Agriculture Extension scheme is being implemented through Doordarshan, DD Kisan, and All India Radio to telecast and broadcast sponsored agriculture and allied sector programs. Under the scheme, a Krishi Darshan program of 30 minutes is telecast three days a week through 18 regional Doordarshan Kendras. Additionally, three programs, namely Krishi Darshan, Hello Kisan, and Choupal Charcha, are aired three days a week on DD Kisan. On AIR, two programs are broadcast: i) Kisanvani program three days a week through 96 Rural AIR FM Radio Stations, and ii) Kisan Ki Baat three days a week through the AIR FM Gold Channel in Delhi (NCR).

In addition to the above, a Focused Publicity & Awareness Campaign through audio-video spots is also being broadcast/telecast through DD, AIR and private TV and radio channels operating at the national and regional levels for the benefit of the farming community. Furthermore, publicity and awareness campaigns are conducted through outdoor advertising as well as print advertisement in leading newspapers across the country. In light of the growing spread of mobile and internet usage in rural areas, social media platforms such as Facebook, X, Instagram, Threads, YouTube, LinkedIn, WhatsApp, and Public App are also being utilized for publicity and awareness.

(b) & (c): Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic development of horticulture in the country. Under the scheme, assistance was envisaged @ 50% of total cost of Rs. 1.75 lakh per unit for low-cost onion storage structure having capacity of 25 MT.

In view of the increase in input cost of various components during the last 10 years, MIDH guidelines alongwith cost norms have been revised wherein the cost of low cost onion storage has been increased upto Rs. 10,000/MT for the maximum capacity of 25 MT wherein subsidy is provided @ 50% of eligible project cost. Apart from this, for increasing the storage capacity of onion in the country, necessary provisions have also been made for promotion of low-cost onion storage with higher capacities i.e. upto a maximum capacity of 1000 MT.

(d) & (e): All the perishable crops horticulture crops are covered under MIDH scheme. However, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is also implementing the Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure as one of the components of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana with the objective of reducing post-harvest losses of horticulture and non-horticulture produce and providing remunerative price to farmers for their produce.

Apart from the above, activities for development of perishable crops including horticulture can be carried out under other various Government schemes like Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) etc.
