NSAI NEWSLETTER

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NSAI Delegation Meets Brazilian Ambassador to Strengthen Seed Sector Collaboration

On July 1, 2025, representatives of the National Seed Association of India (NSAI), Mr. Vaibhav Kashikar, Mr. Ajeet Mulay, Mr. Sudhir Kansal, Dr. Y.R. Meena, Dr. R.K. Tripathi, and Dr. Deepanker Pandey had a meeting with H.E. Mr. Kenneth F. H. Nobrega, Ambassador of Brazil to India, and the Agriculture Attaché of the Brazilian Embassy.

The discussions centered on enhancing bilateral cooperation in the seed sector, particularly exploring opportunities for collaborative research, technology exchange, and seed trade facilitation. Both sides expressed commitment to fostering stronger ties between the Indian and Brazilian seed industries. This meeting marks a significant step forward in advancing agricultural diplomacy and unlocking potential for joint initiatives that benefit both countries farming communities and seed industries.

16th Agriculture Leadership Conclave organized by the Agriculture Today Group on July 9– 10, 2025

The Agriculture Today Group organized the 16th Agriculture Leadership Conclave at The Oberoi, New Delhi on July 9-10, 2025. The event served as a common platform for all key stakeholders in the agriculture sector, bringing together people from government departments, agricultural universities and research institutions, private companies, and farmer organizations.

From NSAI, Dr. Y. R. Meena, Executive Director and Dr. Pramod Sharma, Research Associate, participated in the conclave. During the conclave, several important topics were discussed that are crucial for the future of Indian agriculture. These included the global trends and market outlook for grains and pulses, which are major crops for India. Experts also talked about how agricultural institutions and organizations play a major role in boosting farm productivity and rural development. Another key focus was on the use of modern and innovative technologies in farming, such as smart farming tools, digital platforms, and improved crop practices, to make agriculture more efficient, climate-resilient, and profitable.

The role of agriculture professionals and experts in guiding farmers, shaping policies, and implementing practical solutions was also emphasized. Overall, the conclave offered a meaningful opportunity for knowledge sharing, collaboration, and exploring new ideas to improve and strengthen the agriculture sector in India.

Meeting of the National Task Force (NTF) on Schemes and a Brainstorming Session held on July 11, 2025

A meeting of the National Task Force (NTF) on Schemes and a Brainstorming Session was held under the chairmanship of Shri Ajeet Kumar Sahu, Joint Secretary (Seeds), MoA&FW, on July 11, 2025. The meeting was conducted virtually and attended by representatives from the MoA&FW, State Agriculture Departments, State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), and Private Seed Companies.

From NSAI, Dr. R. K. Tripathi, Director (Technical) and Dr. Pramod Sharma, Research Associate, participated in the meeting. Several important issues were discussed during the session. One of the important areas was the concerns regarding OECD Seed Certification in the country, particularly challenges faced during implementation and critical areas needing improvement. The topic of Organic Seed Certification for export purposes was also discussed in detail, especially in view of India's growing leadership in organic and natural farming practices. It was also suggested that State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and ICAR institutes should take the lead in promoting the production of organic seeds, given their critical role in research, education, and extension. The meeting aimed to gather insights from stakeholders to strengthen seed sector schemes and ensure better alignment with national priorities such as sustainability and organic agriculture.

Union Minister Convene a stakeholder consultation in Coimbatore to Boost Cotton Productivity

Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, chaired a consultative meeting on cotton productivity at the ICAR–Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore on July 11, 2025. Joined by Shri Giriraj Singh, Union Minister of Textiles, Agriculture Ministers from Haryana and Maharashtra, and other states also participated. The meeting marked a critical step toward revitalising India's cotton sector.

Minister Chouhan emphasized that “After food, clothing is the most essential need in life”. He called for coordinated efforts by scientists, policymakers, and farmers to make India self-reliant in cotton production and strengthen the backbone of its textile industry. This initiative builds on the broader vision of ‘Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan’ under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, laying the foundation for a stronger, more prosperous agricultural sector. Shri M. Prabhakar Rao, President of NSAI, participated in the consultation meeting and raised the seed industry's perspective on ‘Strategies towards increasing cotton productivity in the country’. Dr. Deepanker Pandey, Assistant Director, NSAI also participated in the meeting.

National Seminar on Cotton Productivity and Value Chain Transformation held on July 22, 2025 at New Delhi

Dr. R. K. Tripathi, Director (Technical), Dr. Pramod Sharma and Dr. Aashima Batheja, Research Associate, NSAI, participated in the National Seminar on Cotton Productivity and Value Chain Transformation organized by ICFA on July 22, 2025, at the India International Centre, New Delhi. The seminar addressed the challenges and opportunities in Indian cotton sector, concerning declining productivity, sustainability, and value chain development. A group of farmers, policymakers, industry leaders, and scientists attended the seminar.

Dr. Ashok Dalwai, Chairman, Karnataka Agriculture Price Commission, emphasized the urgent need to promote appropriate, high-yielding, and pest-resistant cotton varieties/hybrids, along with the large-scale adoption of advanced agronomic systems such as High-Density Planting Systems (HDPS) combined with mechanization, defoliation, canopy management and better extension services.

Dr. D. K. Yadava, DDG (Crop Science), ICAR, speaking on the occasion, underscored the importance of promoting notified cotton varieties, suitable to different agro-climatic conditions. He drew attention towards the need to strengthen public and private breeding programmes for cotton, with particular focus on Extra-Long Staple (ELS) and Kasturi cotton, which have significant export potential. He informed that the issue of approval of Herbicide-Tolerant (HT Bt) cotton is currently under consideration. Dr. Yadava also raised serious concern regarding the spread of spurious seeds in the market.

Apart from suggestions for the revival of desi cotton and release of varieties according to Indian agro-climatic conditions, there was a consensus towards the necessity of judicious revision of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) to ensure fair returns to cotton growers. Further, the participants felt the strong need to support micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the cotton and textile industry. The panel further highlighted the adoption of mechanization in cotton farming to tackle labor shortages and enhance operational efficiency. The need to promote natural fibres and regenerative cotton practices was also encouraged, in line with global trends towards sustainable and eco-friendly textiles. Emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI), data-driven decision-making, Big Data analytics, Agri-GPT were welcomed as powerful tools to support precision cotton farming, optimize inputs, and monitor pest and disease outbreaks and address climate change and market uncertainties.

Experts put emphasis on fast-tracked approval of new and innovative agricultural techniques to boost cotton productivity. This includes adopting nanotechnology-based solutions to improve crop health and yields, as well as the use of advanced pesticide/nutrient application techniques with the help of drones. Discussions revealed the importance of using good-quality Plant Growth Regulators (PGRs), raising awareness about their timely application for optimal crop development, and expediting the approval process for newly developed crop protection chemicals.

The seminar covered key issues related to marketing, trade, and value chain development in the cotton sector. Discussions focused on factors affecting cotton trade and farmer returns, such as MSP, import duties on cotton and trade agreements supported by balanced trade policies. Regulatory challenges in logistics, documentation, and trade compliance in cotton were emphasized, along with the importance of effective arbitration and dispute resolution. Integrated management approach for pests like Pink Bollworm and cotton white fly was stressed, including the importance of crop health, short duration varieties, early detection, and targeting the breeding phase of PBW to prevent its further multiplication. Cotton growers are looking forward to the arrival of Bollgard III (BG-III) technology that offers enhanced pest resistance and herbicide tolerance.

Dr. R. K. Tripathi moderated the session on “Opportunities and Challenges, Making India a Global Leader in Cotton”. He made a point that although India is one of the leading producers of cotton globally, it lags behind several countries in terms of productivity, fibre quality, and export competitiveness. To bridge this gap, comprehensive and coordinated efforts are required across the entire cotton value chain from farm to export. He also raised the concern regarding HT-Bt cotton, emphasizing the need for its early resolution.

Mrs. Neelkamal Darbari, Former Secretary, Government of India, in her closing address highlighted the need for science-based policymaking. She stressed that policy decisions must be rooted in data, research, and scientific evidence to ensure effectiveness, sustainability, and long-term impact. The seminar concluded that India must adopt a comprehensive, farmer-focused approach to become a global leader in cotton. This includes using good quality seeds, following sustainable farming methods, having strong policy support, promoting new technologies, focusing on value-added products, and branding, which could be achieved through close cooperation among farmers, researchers, industry, and government.

Meeting with Hon'ble Union Agriculture Minister, Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan on July 22, 2025

A delegation of the Indian Seed industry's leading associations, NSAI and FSII, comprising of Dr. M Prabhakar Rao, Dr. Ajai Rana, Dr. Rajvir Rathi, Mr. Vaibhav Kashikar, Mr. Amul Gupta and Dr. Deepanker Pandey had a meeting with Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan on July 22, 2025. An official invitation was extended to attend the Asian Seed Congress (ASC) 2025, scheduled to be held from November 17 to 21, 2025 at the Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai, India and to deliberate on challenges in the Indian seed sector.

During the meeting with the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister of India, the President, NSAI presented key issues and suggestive policy recommendations aimed at strengthening the Indian seed sector under the vision of Atmanirbhar Krishi through Atmanirbhar Beej Udyog. The Minister responded positively to all points raised. NSAI proposed amending the Seed (Control) Order, 1983, to introduce a "One Nation, One License" system, thereby easing interstate operations for seed companies. The President, NSAI, also requested a ₹1000 crore allocation for upgrading Seed Testing Laboratories (STLs), introducing modern biotechnology infrastructure, and accrediting labs to ensure consistent seed quality evaluation results. Further, NSAI urged the government to promote seed exports through targeted incentives and reimbursements, adopt a rule-based taxation model similar to the Tea and Coffee sectors, and rectify GST anomalies on seed production inputs and services to reduce costs for farmers.

A major issue discussed was the widespread cultivation of illegal herbicide-tolerant (HT) cotton, which poses biosafety, legal, and productivity concerns. Farmers are increasingly using unapproved HT cotton due to rising weed problems and labour costs, though these unregulated seeds result in lower yields.



NSAI emphasised the global precedence of safe HT trait usage in cotton and requested urgent approval for its environmental release in India. It also sought immediate ICAR trials of HT Bt cotton hybrids developed by Indian companies to avoid delays in seed availability. The Minister acknowledged the importance of the issue and extended a supportive response to take the matter forward, recognising its alignment with national goals of improving agricultural productivity and farmer welfare.

Seed Industry Updates

Axiom-4 Advances Space-Based Research for Climate-Resilient Agriculture

SpaceX's Crew Dragon 'Grace' has successfully docked with the International Space Station, carrying the four-member Axiom-4 crew on a 14-day mission focused on science and sustainability. Among them is India's Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, marking a proud moment for the country's space ambitions under ISRO's Gaganyaan programme. The mission is pioneering research in space-based agriculture, including experiments on plant growth in microgravity, seed resilience, and closed-loop farming systems. These studies could transform farming in resource-scarce regions on Earth while enabling future deep-space missions, highlighting how innovations in orbit can address food security challenges on our planet.

Gujarat Ranks 2nd in Oilseeds, 3rd in Spices as Agricultural Growth Surges

Gujarat has emerged as a frontrunner in India's agricultural landscape, securing the second position in oilseeds production and third in spices output, according to the latest data for 2023–24. The state's performance is being hailed as a model of diversification and value-driven farming. With a Gross Value of Output (GVO) of ₹29,100 crore in oilseeds, Gujarat trails just behind Rajasthan (₹30,600 crore). The state also registered an impressive 31% growth in oilseeds, with crops like soybean seeing an exponential rise in value from ₹72 crore in 2011–12 to ₹806 crore in 2023–24. In the spices sector, Gujarat clocked a GVO of ₹14,700 crore, placing it third nationally. The growth here has been phenomenal, a 161% increase over the last decade, reflecting a strategic push towards high-value, export-oriented crops.

The cotton sector continues to be Gujarat's crown jewel, with the state retaining the top spot in fibre crops, recording a GVO of ₹24,900 crore. Experts believe Gujarat's agriculture is entering a new phase, marked not just by volume, but by value, sustainability, and innovation.

Hyderabad Start-up Develops Smart iTrapper to Combat Pests, Protect Beneficial Insects

In a significant leap for sustainable agriculture, Hyderabad-based start-up Delta Things Private Limited, in collaboration with scientists from Prof. Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University (PJTSAU), has developed an intelligent light trap named iTrapper that effectively controls pest populations without endangering beneficial insects.

Unlike conventional light traps that indiscriminately attract both harmful and helpful insects, the iTrapper is designed to operate for extended durations, using a scientifically tailored light spectrum that selectively targets pests such as the notorious pink bollworm, while allowing pollinators and other beneficial organisms to thrive. "Light traps generally don't distinguish good and bad insects. This one is different as it excludes beneficial insects. It also works far longer than normal light traps," said Dr. Ramgopal Varma, Principal Scientist (Entomology) at PJTSAU.

NIPGR Develops Gene-Edited Rice with Enhanced Phosphate Uptake and Higher Yields

Scientists at the National Institute of Plant Genome Research (NIPGR) have successfully developed a gene-edited variety of japonica rice that demonstrates significantly improved phosphate uptake and transport, using the cutting-edge CRISPR-Cas9 gene-editing technology. By precisely modifying the promoter region of a phosphate transporter gene, researchers enhanced the plant's ability to mobilize phosphorus from root to shoot. This led to higher seed and panicle numbers, ultimately resulting in increased yields of up to 20%, without any compromise in grain size or quality. The experiments were conducted under controlled greenhouse conditions, where the edited rice lines outperformed conventional lines, even under limited phosphorus availability.

This innovation comes at a crucial time, as phosphorus is a key but poorly absorbed nutrient in agriculture only 15–20% of applied phosphate fertilizers are typically taken up by plants, with the rest lost to leaching and runoff. NIPGR's breakthrough not only promises improved crop performance but also has the potential to reduce dependency on imported phosphate fertilizers and minimize environmental damage.

Union Agriculture Minister Stresses Need to Boost Maize Productivity at India Maize Summit 2025

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has emphasized the urgent need to enhance maize productivity in India to remain competitive in the global agricultural landscape. Addressing the 11th India Maize Summit 2025, organized by FICCI in the national capital, Chouhan said maize is fast emerging as a strategic crop for food security, animal feed, ethanol production, and sustainable industrial applications.

“Maize holds immense potential, but without significant improvements in productivity, India cannot realize its global aspirations,” the Minister stated. He called for a multi-pronged approach centered on research and development, cost-efficient farming, and farmer-focused policy reforms. Chouhan also underlined the need to promote value-added maize products and crop diversification, particularly in states traditionally dominated by paddy cultivation. With India currently producing about 42 million tonnes of maize annually, Chouhan announced the government's target to nearly double output to 86 million tonnes by 2047 through enhanced seed technology, biofortified varieties, and increased starch content all achieved without the use of genetically modified seeds.

Chouhan Urges Crackdown on Fake Fertilizers Amid Rising Demand and Supply Shortages

Union Agriculture Minister, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan has written to Chief Ministers across India, calling for strict action against the production and sale of substandard or counterfeit fertilizers. However, some state officials and experts are viewing the move as a strategic deflection from a immediate concern: a widening shortage of fertilizers amid surging demand.

While the Minister’s letter emphasised the issues of black marketing and fake supplies, states like Punjab, Telangana, and Rajasthan have voiced growing frustration over inadequate fertilizer allocations. The timing raises eyebrows, as it coincides with a significant 12.5% rise in fertilizer sales in the April–June quarter, touching nearly 121 lakh tonnes. Urea sales rose 10%, while complex fertilizers jumped 31%, and MOP usage more than doubled, driven largely by a favourable monsoon and expanded sowing. Ironically, this boom in chemical fertilizer consumption clashes with the government’s ongoing advocacy for natural and organic farming, underscoring policy contradictions at a critical juncture for Indian agriculture.

Bayer Launches 'Felujit' Fungicide to Tackle Sheath Blight in Paddy

Bayer has unveiled Felujit, a next-generation fungicide aimed at combating sheath blight in rice, a major disease threatening paddy yields across India. The product, formulated with a dual-action combination of Penflufen and Tebuconazole, is designed to protect all parts of the rice plant by not only preventing the disease's onset but also arresting its spread. Bayer will begin rolling out Felujit across key rice-growing states this month, offering farmers a robust solution against Rhizoctonia solani, the soil-borne pathogen responsible for sheath blight.

High-Yield Cotton Model from Akola Set to Transform Farming Practices Nationwide

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced a nationwide push for high-density cotton planting (HDPS) to curb imports and position India as a cotton-exporting nation by 2030. Speaking at a stakeholder meeting in Coimbatore on July 11, Chouhan praised successful HDPS models like the Akola pattern by Maharashtra farmer Dilip Thakre and similar work by Dilip Pohane in Wardha with support from the Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR). He urged seed companies and ICAR to focus research on varieties best suited for high-density cultivation. Chouhan also approved a long-pending demand for an agricultural equipment testing institute in South India, marking a key step toward supporting mechanized cotton farming.

HT Bt Cotton Gets Biosafety Clearance, Awaits Final Nod from GEAC

A government-appointed expert committee has submitted a positive report on the biosafety of herbicide-tolerant Bt (HT Bt) cotton, potentially opening the door for its commercial cultivation in India. The final decision now rests with the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC). Although Bt cotton has been approved since 2002, HT Bt cotton has faced regulatory delays despite strong farmer demand. Amid illegal planting of unapproved variants and the recent emergence of tobacco streak virus (TSV) affecting cotton productivity, the issue is likely to take center stage during Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan's cotton-focused meeting in Coimbatore on Friday. Farmers are expected to renew calls for the prompt approval of HT Bt to address both productivity concerns and herbicide resistance.

Paddy, Cotton, Sugarcane Face severe infestations; Farmers Seek Urgent Help

Farmers across Haryana are facing a major agricultural crisis as key kharif crops namely, paddy, cotton, and sugarcane that have come under severe attack from a range of pests and diseases. In Karnal and nearby districts, hybrid and high-yielding paddy varieties are showing signs of the Southern Rice Black-Streaked Dwarf Virus (SRBSDV), with stunted growth and yellowing of leaves causing significant alarm.

Cotton fields in central and eastern parts of the state are witnessing a resurgence of whitefly infestations, triggering fears of viral outbreaks similar to previous years. Meanwhile, sugarcane growers have reported fungal infections, possibly red rot, as well as increasing damage from pyrilla pests, leading to wilting and reduced plant vigor. The erratic monsoon, fluctuating temperatures, and unchecked monoculture practices have exacerbated the spread of these diseases.

With yield losses already being reported between 20% and 40%, state agricultural officials have issued advisories on pest control and disease management, urging immediate farmer action. However, farmer unions are demanding government support, including subsidies for pesticides and disease-resistant seeds, along with compensation for crop losses. The outbreak has sparked concern across the state, as authorities scramble to contain the damage and protect the livelihoods of thousands of cultivators.

Naturally Coloured Cotton Revival Struggles Amid Low Yields, Funding Gaps

Efforts to revive naturally coloured cotton in India once popular during the 1940s are faltering due to low yields and inadequate financial support. Currently cultivated on just 200 acres across Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh, these cotton varieties fetch a premium price of ₹240 per kg, nearly 50% higher than white cotton. However, the yield remains a major concern, with farmers harvesting only 1.5 to 2 quintals per acre compared to 6–7 quintals from conventional cotton, making large-scale adoption economically unviable. Researchers at ICAR–CIRCOT are working to improve fibre quality and productivity through new varieties like Vaidehi-95 and DDCC-1. Though the fibre's natural colour could eliminate the need for chemical dyeing, saving up to 150 litres of water per meter of fabric.

The lack of seed systems, pest resistance, and market linkages continues to hamper progress. Experts warn that without targeted investment and structured buyer support, India risks missing the global eco-textile wave led by countries like Australia and China.

ISARC and CIP Pioneer Climate-Resilient Rice–Potato Farming Model in Varanasi

In a bid to promote sustainable and climate-resilient farming, the International Rice Research Institute, South Asia Regional Centre (ISARC) and the International Potato Center (CIP) jointly hosted a multi-stakeholder consultation in Varanasi, spotlighting a groundbreaking innovation in rice–potato cropping systems. The event focused on advancing the Potato Zero Tillage with Rice Straw Mulch (PZTM) technique, a conservation agriculture method that utilizes rice straw as mulch for potato cultivation, thereby eliminating the need for intensive tillage.

A major highlight was the introduction of a novel combine harvester prototype capable of simultaneously harvesting rice and planting zero-till potatoes in a single mechanized pass, streamlining residue management and ensuring timely sowing. With Uttar Pradesh being India's top potato-producing state, it was identified as an ideal location for piloting the innovation.

Endorsing the initiative, B.L. Meena, Additional Chief Secretary of Horticulture, Government of Uttar Pradesh, emphasized the potential for scaling up PZTM through alignment with existing horticulture and farm mechanization schemes. The consultation drew participation from government officials, agri-tech firms, CGIAR centres, universities, and farmer representatives, marking a significant step toward integrating sustainability into mainstream crop production.

India Secures 5-Year DAP Fertilizer Deal with Saudi Arabia Amid Chinese Export Curbs

In a major step toward securing long-term fertilizer supplies, India has signed a five-year agreement with Saudi Arabia's Ma'aden to import 3.1 million tonnes of Diammonium Phosphate (DAP) annually, with the option to extend for another five years. The pact, finalized during Union Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister J.P. Nadda's visit to Riyadh, comes amid tightening export restrictions by China, traditionally one of India's major DAP suppliers. The move is part of India's broader strategy to diversify its fertilizer sources and reduce dependency on any single country. Officials noted that the deal would ensure price stability and timely availability of DAP for Indian farmers, especially during critical crop seasons. With domestic shortages and global price volatility impacting fertilizer access, the Saudi partnership marks a strategic shift in India's agricultural supply chain resilience.

Maharashtra Bans Private Purchase of Farm Produce Without State Approval

In a significant policy move aimed at regulating agricultural trade, the Maharashtra cabinet has decided that no private trader can purchase agricultural produce directly from farmers without state government permission. The new rule mandates that all buyers must obtain a license from either the local Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) or the state's marketing director. To streamline interstate trade, the marketing director has been empowered to issue a Single Unified License, allowing traders to operate across the country.

The cabinet also approved the creation of a dedicated cadre of marketing committee secretaries, who will function under the supervision of the marketing director to enhance governance and accountability.

Further, the state will intensify the rollout of the National Agriculture Market (eNAM) platform. The pan-India electronic trading portal will now cover 133 APMCs in Maharashtra, aiming to provide farmers with transparent pricing and better market access through digital integration. This move is expected to curb unregulated trading, boost farmer incomes, and bring more agricultural transactions under formal, monitored channels.

MSP Doubled, Procurement Soars Under Modi Government: Agriculture Minister

Union Agriculture Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan informed Parliament on Tuesday that the Narendra Modi-led government has significantly increased the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) and procurement volumes for various crops over the last decade. Addressing the Lok Sabha during Question Hour, Chouhan said that MSP rates have nearly doubled for key crops, while procurement of pulses surged from just 6 lakh metric tonnes during the UPA regime to 1.82 crore metric tonnes under the current government. The minister highlighted that the PM-AASHA scheme has been launched to ensure procurement of pulses and oilseeds like tur, urad, and masoor at 100% MSP, with mechanisms in place to prevent exploitation by middlemen.

MSP for major crops has seen a substantial hike: paddy rose from ₹1,310 (2013–14) to ₹2,369; tur from ₹4,300 to ₹8,000; moong from ₹4,500 to ₹8,768; and sesame from ₹4,500 to ₹9,846. Similar increases were noted for groundnut, soybean, maize, and cotton. Chouhan asserted that the government has ensured a minimum of 50% profit margin over cost in MSP, contributing to better income for farmers. Large-scale procurement and input support such as subsidised fertilizers including urea and DAP are currently underway across the country. He noted that crop production has risen from 246.42 million tonnes to 353.96 million tonnes in the last decade. Pulses production increased from 16.38 to 25.24 million tonnes, and oilseeds from 27.51 to 42.61 million tonnes. Horticulture and milk production also registered robust growth.

The minister further underlined that the agriculture budget has grown nearly five-fold from ₹27,000 crore under the UPA to ₹1.27 lakh crore under the NDA. Institutional credit for farmers has jumped from ₹7 lakh crore to ₹25 lakh crore. On the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Chouhan said ₹1.83 lakh crore in claims have been paid to farmers against a premium collection of ₹35,000 crore. The scheme has been restructured to mandate interest payments at 12% for any delay in claims or state share contributions, ensuring timely benefit delivery to farmers.

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