

Cabinet approves mega schemes for agriculture sector

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The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Thursday cleared several key initiatives linked to India's farm sector and outlays for them previously approved in the annual budget.

The Cabinet rationalized centrally sponsored agriculture schemes into two umbrella programmes—the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) and the Krishonnati Yojana (KY), with a combined budget of just over ₹1 trillion aimed at promoting sustainable farming and ensuring food security.

PM-RKVY aims at increasing farmers' incomes through a bouquet of schemes while KY seeks to boost nutrition levels in lower and mid income families among other things.

The Cabinet also approved a National Mission on Edible Oils - Oilseeds (NMEO - Oilseeds) for the period 2024-25 to 2030-31, with an aim to make India self-reliant in oilseed production within seven years. The total fund outlay for this initiative is ₹10,103 crore. The mission will introduce the SATHI Portal, enabling states to coordinate with stakeholders for the timely availability of quality oilseeds.

Of the total proposed expenditure of ₹1,01,321.61 crore for the two umbrella schemes,



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the central share will be ₹69,088.98 crore, while states will contribute ₹32,232.63 crore. The share of PM-RKVY will be ₹57,074.72 crore while KY gets ₹44,246.89 crore.

"These initiatives are set to promote sustainable farming practices and ensure food security, crucial for achieving long-term agricultural self-sufficiency in India," said Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union minister for information and broadcasting, briefing reporters.

With agriculture being the backbone of the economy, supporting over 50% of the population, these schemes come at a pivotal time as the sector faces challenges like climate change, dwindling soil health, and rising input costs.

The government's move is a strategic step towards streamlining efforts, minimizing resource duplication.

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