



Union Agriculture Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan takes decisive step in farmers' interest; MSP support of over ₹4,886 crore

Approval for procurement of 9,023 metric tonnes of sunflower in Karnataka granted by Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Major decision for gram producers in Maharashtra; procurement limit increased to 8.19 lakh metric tonnes

Centre committed to ensuring remunerative prices; farmers to be protected from distress sale: Shri Chouhan

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The Union Government has taken yet another key decision in a significant move to ensure remunerative prices for farmers and prevent distress sale of agricultural produce, as Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, and Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan approved the procurement of 9,023 metric tonnes of sunflower at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) in Karnataka for the Rabi 2026 season. Additionally, the government has increased the maximum procurement limit of gram in Maharashtra for the Rabi 2025-26 season to 8,19,882 metric tonnes. Together, these decisions will provide MSP support worth more than ₹4,886.46 crore to farmers.

Sunflower procurement approved in Karnataka

Approving a proposal from the Karnataka government, Shri Chouhan sanctioned the procurement of 9,023 metric tonnes of sunflower under the Price Support Scheme (PSS) for the Rabi 2026 season. The total MSP value of this approval exceeds ₹69.66 crore. The decision is expected to ensure that sunflower farmers in Karnataka receive fair and remunerative prices for their produce.

The move is particularly significant for farmers who often face the compulsion to sell their produce at lower prices due to unfavourable market conditions. With MSP procurement now approved, farmers will be better protected from distress sales. The decision is also expected to strengthen farmers' confidence and contribute to greater stability in the agricultural sector.

Procurement limit for gram increased in Maharashtra

In another major decision, the Union Minister approved a proposal from the Maharashtra government to increase the maximum procurement quantity of gram under the PSS to 8,19,882 metric tonnes for the Rabi 2025-26 season. The total MSP value of this decision exceeds ₹4,816.80 crore.

The government has also extended the procurement period for gram in Maharashtra by 30 days, allowing purchases to continue until May 29, 2026. This extension is expected to benefit farmers who were unable to sell their produce within the earlier deadline. It will enable a larger number of farmers to avail MSP benefits and avoid selling their produce at lower prices due to market pressure.

Relief from distress sales, boost to farmer confidence

The decisions taken by the Centre are aimed at protecting farmers from distress sales and ensuring that they receive fair value for their produce. By expanding procurement operations and extending timelines, the government seeks to create a more secure and predictable environment for agricultural producers.

Such measures are expected to not only provide direct financial relief to farmers but also reinforce their confidence in the procurement system. The increased procurement limits and timelines will help ensure that farmers are not forced into disadvantageous market transactions.

Government reiterates commitment to farmer welfare

Under the guidance of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the leadership of Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare has been working to make agricultural procurement more effective, transparent and farmer-centric. The approvals for sunflower procurement in Karnataka and gram procurement in Maharashtra underscore the government's continued focus on safeguarding farmers' economic interests. These steps are aimed at strengthening the agricultural economy by ensuring price assurance and reducing vulnerability to market fluctuations. The Central Government has maintained that ensuring remunerative prices for farmers remains a key priority. By expanding MSP operations and providing timely support, it aims to enhance income stability for farmers and promote long-term sustainability in the agricultural sector. These decisions are expected to not only benefit farmers in Karnataka and Maharashtra directly but also contribute to a broader sense of trust and stability in the agricultural ecosystem.

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