Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan participates in ‘Khet Bachao Abhiyan’ in Punjab

Major benefit of ₹254.20 crore for Punjab’s farmers: Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan hands over approval letter under PM-RKVY

New impetus for Punjab’s agriculture: Centre approves seven new projects worth ₹98.44 crore; Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan hands over approval letter to Punjab Agriculture Minister Gurmeet Singh Khuddian

Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan issues stern warning in Mohali: “Those involved in black marketing and forced tagging of fertilisers will face imprisonment”

Major step by the Centre under ‘Khet Bachao Abhiyan’: “New stringent pesticide law to be introduced to curb fake fertilisers, seeds and substandard pesticides,” says Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan

“Nationwide green ammonia trial launched across 10,000 hectares as a better alternative to urea”: Union Agriculture Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan witnesses live demonstration in Mohali

“Governments may be different, but serving farmers is our shared responsibility”: Union Agriculture Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan at Badarpur village in Mohali

“Punjab’s soldiers have defended the country, while its farmers have filled the nation’s granaries”: Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan pays tribute to Punjab’s farmers for reducing incidents of stubble burning

Indiscriminate use of chemical fertilisers is making ‘Mother Earth’ sick: “Farmers must get their soil tested before applying fertilisers,” says Union Agriculture Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan in Mohali

Crop diversification and integrated farming under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi’s leadership will increase the incomes of small farmers:

“Aim to include more such projects in the next Budget,” says Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan directs that a special meeting of the Honey Board be convened and certification of organic products be simplified: Progressive farmers described as role models for the country

Punjab’s farmers are bypassing middlemen and selling pure products directly to consumers: Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan appreciates their efforts, saying, “Where there is purity, there will certainly be a market”

Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan sits on the field boundary to listen to farmers’ concerns: Assures 80% subsidy on farm machinery for small groups, and positive action on Morinda Sugar Mill and the problem of stray cattle

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Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare, and Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan today participated in the ‘Khet Bachao Abhiyan’ programme organised at Badarpur village in Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar district (Mohali), Punjab, and announced significant support for the state’s farmers. In the presence of Punjab Agriculture Minister Shri Gurmeet Singh Khuddian, Shri Chouhan handed over an approval letter for the release of ₹254.20 crore as the second tranche of the Mother Sanction under the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) for the financial year 2026–27. In addition, the central government approved seven new agricultural projects under the state’s Annual Action Plan, with a total outlay of ₹98.44 crore. Addressing the programme, the Union Minister announced strict action against those involved in the black marketing of fertilisers and the practice of forcibly tagging other products with fertiliser purchases. He said that those found engaging in such practices would face imprisonment. He also announced that a stringent new pesticide law would be introduced to curb the sale of fake pesticides and other substandard agricultural inputs. Alongside these measures, he shared details of a new green ammonia trial across 10,000 hectares, being undertaken as an alternative to urea.



Paying his respects to Punjab, the sacred land of Guru Nanak Dev Ji, Union Agriculture Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that the soldiers of Punjab had always stood firm in defending the nation, while the state's farmers had filled the country's granaries through their hard work and contribution to the Green Revolution. Recalling that Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Prakash Parv (birth anniversary) would be celebrated on the coming 24th , Shri Chouhan said that the teachings of Guru Sahib, particularly the message of 'Kirat Karo, Naam Japo and Vand Chhako' – "work honestly, remember the divine and share with others" – continued to inspire humanity towards service, hard work and dedication. These values, he said, offered renewed motivation and energy for serving society. Speaking emotionally to the farmers gathered there, he said, "My farmer brothers and sisters, I am a 'Mama' to you before I am a minister. For me, serving farmers is no less than worshipping God." He emphasised that the welfare of farmers was a responsibility that went beyond official positions and political considerations.

Centre and state will work together to serve farmers: ₹254.20 crore in support for Punjab

Reaffirming his commitment to farmers' welfare above political differences, Union Minister Shri Shivraj Chouhan said that the central and state governments might be run by different political parties, but that should make no difference to their shared responsibility towards farmers. Their sole objective, he stressed, must be to improve the lives and livelihoods of Punjab's farmers. In keeping with this commitment, he handed over the approval letter for ₹254.20 crore under PM-RKVY to Punjab Agriculture Minister Shri Gurmeet Singh Khuddian. In addition to this allocation, the central government had also approved seven new projects worth ₹98.44 crore in response to the Punjab government's request. These projects, included in the state's Annual Action Plan, are intended to support agricultural development across Punjab. The approved funds will help increase agricultural productivity, strengthen modern agricultural infrastructure and give fresh momentum to the overall development of the state's agriculture sector. Shri Chouhan said that the Centre was committed to extending the necessary support to states for the benefit of farmers, irrespective of political differences between governments.

Strict warning against fertiliser tagging and black marketing; new Pesticide Act to be introduced

Taking a firm stand on issues affecting farmers, Union Minister Shri Chouhan made it clear that no dealer or shopkeeper would be permitted to force farmers to purchase unnecessary products along with fertilisers through the practice of 'tagging'. He said that, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the central government imported fertilisers at high international prices and provided them to farmers with substantial subsidies so that farmers could access essential agricultural inputs at affordable rates and benefit from their use. Anyone found indulging in black marketing or forcibly tagging other products with fertilisers, he warned, would face strict action. "If anyone engages in black marketing or tagging, the only place for them will be jail," he said. He also announced that the government was preparing to replace the existing Pesticide Act with a new and much stricter law to tackle the problem of fake fertilisers, spurious seeds and substandard pesticides at its root. The proposed legislation is intended to strengthen safeguards for farmers against poor-quality and fraudulent agricultural inputs. Suggestions are being sought from farmers and experts across the country as part of the process of framing the new law. Shri Chouhan said that the government was determined to take firm measures to protect farmers from practices that increase their costs and compromise agricultural productivity.



Green ammonia trial across 10,000 hectares; call to protect soil health

Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that he believed in sitting with farmers on the boundaries of their fields and understanding their concerns while shaping policies, rather than making decisions while remaining confined to an office in Delhi. During the programme, he witnessed a live demonstration of green ammonia and informed farmers that the government was undertaking a trial of this technology across 10,000 hectares for the first time, with green ammonia being explored as an alternative to urea. If successful, the initiative could bring substantial benefits to farmers. Highlighting the need to protect soil health, he said that just as excessive consumption of medicines makes a person ill, indiscriminate use of urea, DAP and other chemical fertilisers was making 'Mother Earth' sick. He urged farmers to get their soil tested before applying fertilisers and nutrients, and to use only those nutrients, and only in the quantities that their fields actually required. This would help maintain soil fertility while avoiding unnecessary expenditure and excessive chemical use. The Minister also appreciated farmer Bhupinder Singh Ji for managing crop residue by incorporating stubble into the soil instead of burning it. Praising Punjab's efforts to bring down incidents of stubble burning continuously, he said that the state was increasingly setting an example for the rest of the country. He urged farmers to continue adopting responsible crop-residue management practices to protect the environment and preserve the health of their soil.





Major decisions on crop diversification, integrated farming and the Honey Board

Shri Chouhan said that continued dependence on the wheat-paddy cropping cycle alone was neither beneficial for soil health nor adequate for improving farmers' incomes in the long run. He encouraged small farmers to adopt integrated farming, explaining that

combining crop cultivation with activities such as fruit and vegetable production, animal husbandry, fisheries, poultry, goat rearing, mushroom cultivation and beekeeping could provide a regular source of income throughout the year. By diversifying their activities and making better use of available land and resources, farmers could reduce their dependence on a single crop and create additional income opportunities. He said that the government aimed to bring more integrated farming projects to farmers through the next Budget as well, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The objective would be to promote crop diversification and integrated farming in a manner that particularly benefits small farmers and makes their livelihoods more secure.



During his interaction with farmers, Union Minister Shri Chouhan appreciated the innovative efforts of progressive farmers Jagdish Ji, who is engaged in organic farming, Sahiwal dairy farming and beekeeping; Fateh Singh Ji, who sells pure milk and sweets directly to consumers without involving middlemen; and Ratanjot Ji, who has established a vermicompost project on five acres. Describing progressive farmers such as these as role models for the country, Shri Chouhan praised their efforts to develop practical and sustainable models of agricultural enterprise. He directed that a special meeting of the National Beekeeping Board (Honey Board) be convened to discuss and address the problems faced by honey producers. He also called for the certification process for organic products to be simplified so that farmers producing organic goods could access certification more easily. In addition, farmers raised several local concerns, including the demand for an 80 per cent subsidy on agricultural machinery for small groups, the modernisation of Morinda Sugar Mill and the problem of stray cattle. Shri Chouhan assured them that positive steps would be taken in coordination with the state government to address these issues. He said that the concerns raised directly by farmers would be taken up with the relevant authorities so that practical solutions could be explored.

Punjab Agriculture Minister Shri Gurmeet Singh Khuddian, senior leader Shri Sunil Jakhar, the Vice-Chancellor of the Agricultural University, senior agriculture department officials from the central and state governments, scientists from Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), and a large number of progressive farmers and representatives of farmer organisations were present on the occasion.

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