



Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization Scheme

Why in News

Recently, the Government of India has released funds for various activities of **Farm Mechanization** under the [Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization \(SMAM\) scheme](#).

Key Points

▪ About:

- The **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** launched SMAM in **2014-15**.
- Under it, subsidy is provided for purchase of various types of **agricultural equipment and machinery** to the extent of **40-50% for States** other than NER (North Eastern Region) States and **for NER States it is 100% limited to Rs.1.25 lakhs per beneficiary**.
- The agriculture ministry has also developed a Multilingual Mobile App, '**CHC (Custom Hiring Centres)- Farm Machinery**' which connects farmers with Custom Hiring Service Centres situated in their locality.

▪ Aim:

- Increasing **the reach of farm mechanization** to **small and marginal farmers** and to the regions and difficult areas where farm power availability is low.

▪ Objectives:

- Promoting '**Custom Hiring Centres**' and '**Hi-tech Hubs of High-Value Machines**' to offset the adverse economies of scale arising due to small and fragmented landholding and high cost of individual ownership.
- **Creating awareness** among stakeholders through demonstration and capacity building activities.
- Ensuring **performance testing and certification of agricultural machines** at designated testing centres located all over the country.

▪ Other Related Initiatives:

- [Sub-Mission on Agroforestry Scheme](#).
- [National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture](#).
- [National Food Security Mission](#).
- [Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana \(RKVY\)](#).
- [Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture](#).
- [Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sichayee Yojana \(PMKSY\)](#).
- [Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana](#).
- [Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana](#).

Agriculture/Farm Mechanization

▪ About:

- Mechanised agriculture is the **process of using agricultural machinery** to mechanise

the work of agriculture.

- To boost up mechanization in the agriculture sector, **improved agricultural implements and machinery are essential inputs.**

▪ **Level of farm Mechanization:**

- **India stands at about 40-45%** with states such as **UP, Haryana and Punjab** having **very high** mechanization levels, but **north-eastern states** having **negligible** mechanization.
- This level of farm mechanization is still low as compared to countries such as the **US (95 %), Brazil (75%)** and **China (57%)**.

▪ **Significance:**

- It plays a **vital role in optimizing the use of land**, water energy resources, manpower and other inputs like seeds, fertilizers, pesticides etc to **maximize the productivity** of the available cultivable area and **make agriculture a more profitable and attractive profession for rural youth.**
- It is one of the **key drivers for the [sustainable development](#)** of the agriculture sector.

▪ **Negative Impact:**

- Reduce workforce hence **decreases farm employment.**
- Use of machinery **increases pollution.**

[Source: PIB](#)

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