

ATMANIRBHAR CLEAN PLANT PROGRAM TO BE
LAUNCHED WITH AN OUTLAY OF Rs. 2,200
CRORE TO BOOST AVAILABILITY OF QUALITY
PLANTING MATERIAL FOR HIGH VALUE
HORTICULTURAL CROPS

AGRICULTURE ACCELERATOR FUND TO BE
SET-UP TO ENCOURAGE AGRI-STARTUPS IN
RURAL AREAS

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MILLET RESEARCH,
HYDERABAD TO BE SUPPORTED AS THE
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR 'SHREE ANNA'

DIGITAL PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE FOR
AGRICULTURE TO BE BUILT AS AN OPEN
SOURCE, OPEN STANDARD AND INTER
OPERABLE PUBLIC GOOD FOR INCLUSIVE,
FARMER-CENTRIC SOLUTIONS

AGRICULTURE CREDIT TARGET TO BE
INCREASED TO Rs. 20 LAKH CRORE WITH
FOCUS ON ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRY AND
FISHERIES

NEW SUB-SCHEME OF PM MATSYA SAMPADA YOJANA TO BE LAUNCHED WITH TARGETED INVESTMENT OF Rs. 6,000 CRORE

CLUSTER-BASED, VALUE CHAIN APPROACH TO BE ADOPTED TO ENHANCE PRODUCTIVITY OF EXTRA-LONG STAPLE COTTON

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An Atmanirbhar Clean Plant Program will be launched with an outlay of Rs. 2,200 crore to boost availability of disease-free, quality planting material for high value horticultural crops, the Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman said while presenting the Union Budget 2022-23 in Parliament today.

In her Budget Speech, the Finance Minister stated that an Agriculture Accelerator Fund will be set-up to encourage agri-startups by young entrepreneurs in rural areas. The Fund will aim at bringing innovative and affordable solutions for challenges faced by farmers, and will also bring in modern technologies to transform agricultural practices, increase productivity and profitability, she added.

The infographic features logos for PIB, 75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, and G20 India 2023 at the top. The main title is 'AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVES' in green. Below it, the section is titled 'INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT'. A list of six initiatives is provided, each with a green plant icon and a horizontal bar:

- More Credit to Agriculture Sector: **186 lakh cr** in FY22
- Agriculture Accelerator Fund to encourage Start-Ups in rural areas
- Atmanirbhar Bharat Horticulture Clean Plant Program to boost production of high value horticultural crops
- ₹20 lakh cr** credit for Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries sector
- Additional storage capacity for farm produce
- Support to making India a Global Hub For Millets: 'Shree Anna'

A circular badge on the right says 'UNION BUDGET 2023-24'. The background shows a collage of agricultural scenes: a field with a bull, farmers in a field, and a person with a basket. At the bottom, there are social media handles: @PIB_india, @PIBIndi, @pibindia, @pibindia, PIBindia, @PIB_india, @PIBIndi, and @PIBIndia.

Referring to millets as 'Shree Anna', the Finance Minister quoted the Prime Minister as saying,

“India is at the forefront of popularizing Millets, whose consumption furthers nutrition, food security and welfare of farmers.” She noted that India is the largest producer and second largest exporter of ‘Shree Anna’ in the world, and that several types of millets such as *jowar*, *ragi*, *bajra*, *kuttu*, *ramdana*, *kangni*, *kutki*, *kodo*, *cheena*, and *sama* are grown in the country. These have a number of health benefits, and have been an integral part of India’s food for centuries, she said.

The Finance Minister acknowledged with pride the huge service done by small farmers in contributing to the health of fellow citizens by growing these crops. To make India a global hub for millets, the Indian Institute of Millet Research, Hyderabad will be supported as the Centre of Excellence for sharing best practices, research and technologies at the international level, she highlighted.

Digital public infrastructure for agriculture will be built as an open source, open standard and inter operable public good, Smt. Sitharaman said in her speech. “This will enable inclusive, farmer-centric solutions through relevant information services for crop planning and health, improved access to farm inputs, credit, and insurance, help for crop estimation, market intelligence, and support for growth of agri-tech industry and start-ups,” she elaborated.

The Finance Minister said that the agriculture credit target will be increased to Rs. 20 lakh crore with focus on animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries. A new sub-scheme of PM Matsya Sampada Yojana will also be launched with a targeted investment of Rs. 6,000 crore to further enable activities of fishermen, fish vendors, and micro & small enterprises, improve value chain efficiencies, and expand the market, she added.

To enhance the productivity of extra-long staple cotton, a cluster-based and value chain approach will be adopted through Public Private Partnerships (PPP), Smt. Sitharaman said. This will mean collaboration between farmers, state and industry for input supplies, extension services, and market linkages, she elucidated.

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