

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 406**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2023

**AGRI-TECH INDUSTRY**

406. SHRI T.R. BAALU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be please to state:

- (a) whether the Government agrees with the view that the Agri-Tech industry can play a vital role in leading the transformation in food systems and improving the efficiency, quality and profitability of small farms;
- (b) if so, the measures that have been taken or being taken by the Government keeping in mind that Agri-Tech has huge transformational potential with capabilities of automating agricultural functions, improving traceability of the agriculture supply chain, fighting risks and uncertainties through predictive power, directly connecting farmers with consumers, Agribusinesses, credit institutions and with the Government policies and many more; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c) : The government acknowledges the significant potential of the Agri-Tech industry in driving the transformation of food systems and enhancing the efficiency and profitability of small farms. Further, various initiatives and policies have been introduced to promote technological advancements in agriculture, recognizing the role of Agri-Tech in addressing challenges and fostering sustainable agricultural practices. The government has laid the initiatives to establish a Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for Agriculture, incorporating standardised Registries in the agriculture sector, Krishi Decision Support System, Agri Data Exchange, Consent Manager, Sand Box and a Unified Farmer Service Interface (UFSI). This initiative aims to enhance interoperability and convergence of efforts, fostering the development of applications in the agricultural sector using emerging digital technologies. Further, to complement these efforts and create opportunities for public-private partnerships, a Screening Committee has been constituted to invite Expressions of Interest from non-government entities and to recommend suitable Agri-Tech entities for collaborative work with government.