From

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## **EDITORIAL**

India's Agriculture Budget for 2025 introduces several new initiatives aimed at strengthening food security and supporting farmers. One of the key programs is the Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana, which focuses on direct cash transfers, technological integration, capacity building, and market linkages to improve farmer welfare. Additionally, the budget includes missions for pulses and cotton production, aiming to boost domestic supply and reduce reliance on imports.

Challenges remain, particularly in post-harvest losses, which amount to ₹ 1.5 lakh crore annually. The government is also working on modernizing *mandis* through technology, supporting small-scale mechanization, and ensuring affordable feed and fodder for livestock. Infrastructure development, including a new urea plant in Assam, is expected to enhance agricultural productivity.

The budget highlights agriculture as a key driver of India's economy, contributing approximately 16% to the GDP and supporting 46.1% of the population. However, issues such as low adoption of modern practices, limited access to quality seeds, and inadequate mechanization continue to hinder productivity. This budget for sure has laid a strong foundation for growth by prioritizing farmer welfare, modernizing infrastructure, and encouraging sustainable practices. With investments in technology-driven solutions, market accessibility, and crop diversification, the sector is poised for greater productivity and resilience. Now the successful implementation will be key. Factors like weather patterns, global trade dynamics, and execution efficiency will determine how effectively these policies translate into real benefits for farmers.

Sincerely

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