7 Years of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana (PM-KMY)

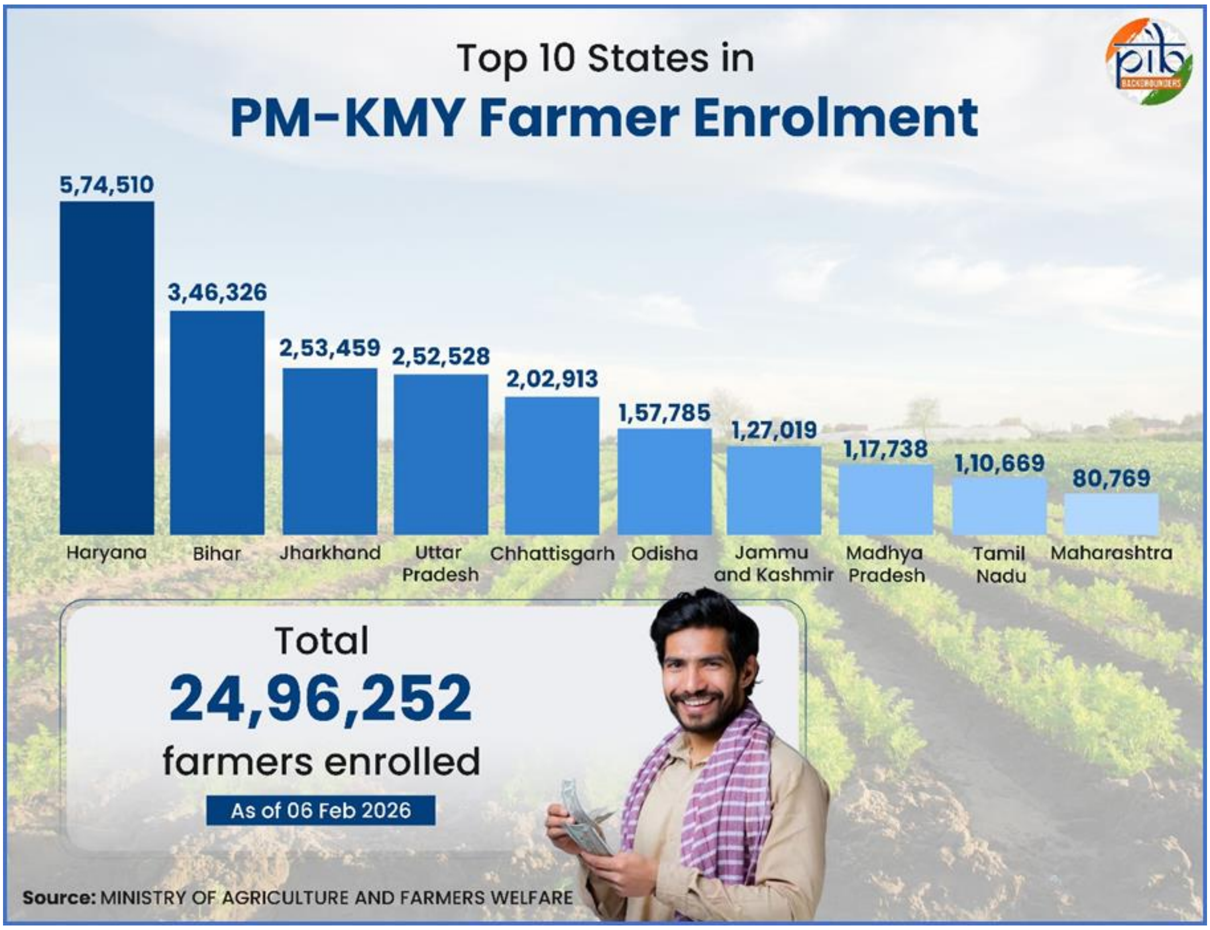
Securing Farmers’ Future with Dignity

The **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana (PM-KMY)** is a voluntary, contributory old-age pension scheme launched on **12 September 2019** to provide social security to India’s **Small and Marginal Farmers (SMFs)**.

As the scheme completes seven years on **12 September 2026**, it represents an important effort to ensure that farmers can look forward to their later years with greater **financial security, stability and dignity**.

Growing Social Security Coverage

- PM-KMY has steadily expanded its reach since its launch. By **6 February 2026, 24,96,252 farmers** had enrolled under the scheme.
- Haryana has the highest enrolment, with around **5.75 lakh farmers**, followed by Bihar with more than **3.46 lakh**.
- Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh have each crossed **2.5 lakh**, while Chhattisgarh has recorded more than **2 lakh enrolments**.
- Odisha, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra have also contributed significantly to the scheme’s national footprint.
- Since 2019, around **₹540.66 crore** has been utilised nationwide for implementation and outreach, as of February 2026.
- The expanding enrolment reflects increasing awareness of the importance of old-age social security among farming communities.



Pension Security for Farmers

- PM-KMY is a **Central Sector Scheme** administered by the **Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare**, in partnership with the **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)**.
- Eligible farmers receive a **minimum assured pension of ₹3,000 per month after attaining 60 years of age**.
- The scheme is particularly significant for small and marginal farmers, who often have limited savings and face income uncertainties during old age.
- The scheme also provides **family pension protection**. If a subscriber dies after beginning to receive the pension, the spouse is entitled to **50% of the pension, i.e. ₹1,500 per month**, provided the spouse is not already a PM-KMY beneficiary.
- If a subscriber dies before 60 years of age, the spouse can either **continue the scheme by making the prescribed contributions** or exit according to the applicable withdrawal provisions.

Eligibility

- PM-KMY is open to **small and marginal farmers with cultivable landholdings of up to two hectares**. Eligible farmers must:
  - Be **18–40 years of age** at the time of enrolment.
  - Have their names recorded in the relevant **State/UT land records as of 1 August 2019**.
  - Satisfy the prescribed exclusion criteria.
- The scheme covers both **male and female farmers**, making it an important component of inclusive rural social security.

Who Is Excluded?

- The scheme is targeted towards farmers with limited old-age financial protection. Therefore, several categories are excluded.
- Farmers already covered under other social-security or pension schemes, such as **NPS, ESIC, EPFO, PM-SYM and PM-LVM**, cannot enrol.
- Other exclusions include:
  - **Institutional landholders**
  - Present or former **constitutional post holders**
  - Present or former **Ministers and elected representatives**, including MPs, MLAs, MLCs, Mayors and District Panchayat Chairpersons
  - Serving or retired employees of Central/State Governments, Public Sector

    Enterprises and regular local-body employees
  - **Income-tax payers**
  - Registered practising professionals such as **doctors, engineers, lawyers, CAs and architects**
- However, **MTS, Class IV and Group D government employees are exempted from this particular exclusion and remain eligible**.
- Eligibility is primarily based on **self-declaration**, which is subsequently certified by the State/UT Government. False declarations can result in loss of benefits, stoppage of the Government's matching contribution and refund of the subscriber's contributions without interest.

Shared Contribution Model

- A major feature of PM-KMY is its **50:50 contribution model**. The farmer and the Central Government contribute an equal amount towards the pension fund.
- Depending on the age at which a farmer joins, the monthly contribution ranges from **₹55 to ₹200**. Younger entrants contribute less, while those joining closer to 40 contribute more.
- Contributions are generally **automatically debited from the farmer’s linked bank account** through an auto-debit mandate. Eligible farmers can also use their **PM-KISAN benefits for voluntary contributions** towards PM-KMY.
- This arrangement reduces the financial burden on farmers while enabling them to build long-term pension security.

Simple and Digital Enrolment

- PM-KMY provides a **paperless enrolment process through Common Service Centres (CSCs)**.

- Farmers need their **Aadhaar card, bank account details and mobile number** for registration and OTP verification.
- The **Village Level Entrepreneur (VLE)** verifies the farmer’s information and completes the online registration. The first contribution is processed digitally.
- Following successful enrolment, the farmer receives a **Pension Account Number and pension card**.
- Subsequent contributions are automatically debited from the linked bank account.
- Farmers can choose contribution frequencies of **monthly, quarterly, four-monthly or half-yearly**, providing flexibility according to agricultural income cycles.

Significance

- PM-KMY goes beyond conventional agricultural support by recognising that **farmers’ welfare must extend beyond their productive years**.
- It creates an institutional pension safety net for a section of the farming community that may otherwise have limited retirement savings.
- The scheme contributes to –
  - **Old-age income security**
  - **Financial dignity for farmers**

- **Family-level social protection**
- Greater awareness of **formal pension systems**
- Inclusion of rural households within India's broader **social-security architecture**

Conclusion

- Seven years of PM-KMY demonstrate the Government's attempt to create a sustainable social-security framework for small and marginal farmers.
- With nearly **25 lakh enrolments**, assured pension of **₹3,000 per month**, equal Government contribution, family-pension provisions and a simple digital enrolment mechanism, the scheme seeks to transform old age from a period of financial uncertainty into one of greater dignity and security.
- Ultimately, PM-KMY recognises a fundamental principle: **those who spend their working lives securing India's food security also deserve security in their own later years.**

Reference

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