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AGRICULTURE FORUM FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION OF FARMING SOCIETY

Kota, Rajasthan

AgriStack and Farmer Registry: Connecting Farmers with Digital Services

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INTRODUCTION

Agriculture depends on timely information, reliable records, and access to services. Farmers often submit the same identity and land documents to different offices when applying for crop loans, insurance, subsidies, or procurement services. Repeated documentation can take time and create confusion, while incomplete or outdated records can make it harder for departments to identify eligible farmers and deliver timely assistance.

To address these challenges, the Government of India approved the Digital Agriculture Mission in September 2024 with a total outlay of Rs.2,817 crore. The mission supports agricultural digital infrastructure, including AgriStack, the Krishi Decision Support System, and soil fertility and profile mapping.

AgriStack is a farmer-centric Digital Public Infrastructure designed to connect verified farmer, land, and crop information for more efficient planning and service delivery. Its foundational registries are maintained by states and Union Territories. A core component, the Farmer Registry, provides farmers with a unique Farmer ID linked to relevant land records. This digital identity is intended to simplify identification and verification, reduce repeated documentation, and support access to agricultural schemes and services, subject to their eligibility requirements.

2. AgriStack

"Stack" simply means layers of digital systems placed one over the other. AgriStack has three foundational registries (databases). All three are created and maintained by State Governments and Union Territories. Together they answer three basic questions: who is the farmer, where is the land, and what is grown on it.

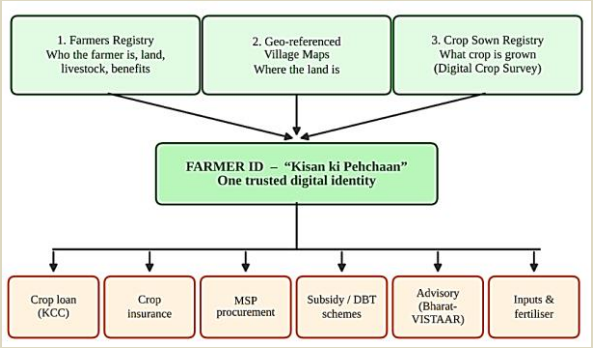


Fig. 1: AgriStack: three registries create the Farmer ID, which opens many services

AgriStack is a set of digital systems and databases designed to make agricultural services more connected and easier to deliver. Think of it as a digital bridge between a farmer's verified information and the government or authorised service that needs it for a specific purpose.

It is not a single mobile app and is not a scheme that directly pays money to every registered farmer. Instead, it provides digital infrastructure that different agricultural programmes and services canuse, subject to their own rules

Table 1: The three registries of AgriStack

Registry	What it holds	Why it matters to a farmer
Farmers Registry	Farmer details, land records, crops grown, livestock and fisheries assets	One verified identity for all schemes
Geo-referenced Village Maps	Digital maps of village land with location data	Plots are correctly identified on the map
Crop Sown Registry	Crop actually sown, recorded plot-by-plot through the Digital Crop Survey	Fair crop insurance, procurement and advice

Where does AgriStack fit?

- Digital Agriculture Mission: the broader government mission supporting digital infrastructure for agriculture
- AgriStack: the digital foundation intended to connect farmer, land and crop information.
- Farmer Registry: the registry through which a farmer's digital identity is created and used for authorised service connections.
- Connected services: schemes, crop insurance, credit, procurement and advisories may use relevant verified data, depending on implementation.

3. Farmer ID – "Kisan ki Pehchaan"

The Farmer Registry is a state-managed digital register of farmers. The Farmer ID is a digital identity for farmers, similar in idea to Aadhaar. It is created and maintained by State Governments and Union Territories and is linked to land records, livestock ownership, crops sown and benefits availed. Farmer IDs are created by matching a farmer's details with digitised land records.

How a Farmer ID is created

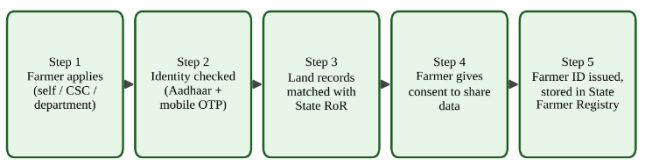


Fig. 2: Steps in creating a Farmer ID
(the exact process differs by State)

How a farmer can get one

1. Contact your village-level agriculture office, Raitha Samparka Kendra / Krishi office, or a Common Service Centre, or use your states farmer registry portal (in Karnataka, the FRUITS portal).
2. Keep ready your Aadhaar number, the mobile number linked to it and your land record details (for example, survey number or RTC).
3. Complete the identity check (usually an OTP) and give your consent for your data to be used.
4. Check that your name, land and crop details are correct. If land records are wrong, first get them corrected with the revenue department.

Note: the documents and steps above are the usual ones; the exact process is decided by each State. The Government has earmarked Rs 10 per Farmer ID from PM-KISAN administrative funds for creation and verification

4. Digital Agriculture Mission

AgriStack is one of three Digital Public Infrastructures built under the Digital Agriculture Mission. The Union Cabinet approved the Mission on 2 September 2024 with an outlay of Rs 2,817 crore, of which the central share is Rs.1,940 crore.

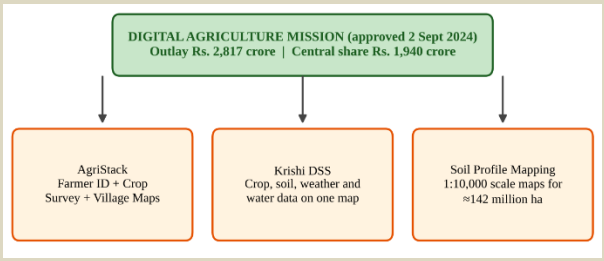


Table 2: Digital Agriculture Mission key facts and targets

Item	Fact
Approved	2 September 2024 (Union Cabinet)
Total outlay / central share	Rs.2,817 crore / Rs.1,940 crore
Farmer ID target	11 crore: 6 crore (2024-25), 3 crore (2025-26), 2 crore (2026-27)
Digital Crop Survey plan	400 districts in 2024-25; all districts in 2025-26
Soil Profile Mapping	1:10,000 scale maps for about 142 million ha; about 29 million ha done
States with MoUs	19 States signed MoUs with the Ministry
Pilot districts for Farmer ID	One each in Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Haryana, Punjab and Tamil Nadu
Jobs expected	About 2.5 lakh opportunities for trained local youth and Krishi Sakhis

- The second pillar, **Krishi Decision Support System (Krishi DSS)**, is a geospatial system that brings together remote-sensing information on crops, soil, weather and water resources. It supports crop mapping, drought and flood monitoring and yield assessment for insurance claims.
- The third pillar, **Soil Profile Mapping**, prepares detailed soil maps for better fertiliser and crop decisions.

5. Progress in Numbers

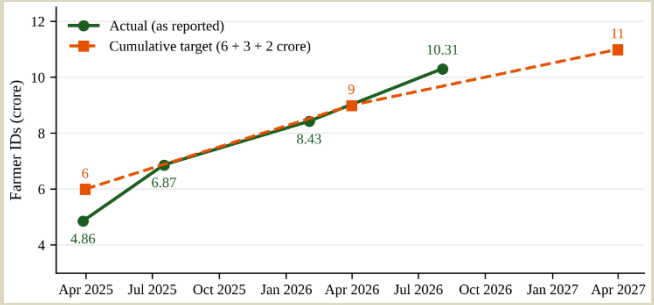


Fig. 4: Farmer IDs created in India (crore) against the cumulative target

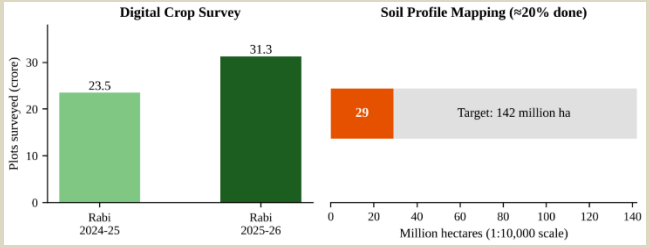


Fig. 5: Digital Crop Survey coverage and Soil Profile Mapping progress

More than **10.31 crore Farmer IDs** had been created across India as of 3 August 2026, against the target of 11 crore by March 2027, leaving about 0.69 crore to go. The Digital Crop Survey in Rabi 2025-26 covered **648 districts and more than 31.3 crore plots**.

6. How AgriStack Connects Farmers with Digital Services

When farmer and crop information is accurate and can be checked by authorised systems, farmers may not need to repeat the same basic information for every connected service. The aim is to reduce duplication, improve verification and support more timely delivery.

Table 3: Services that use the Farmer Registry

Service	How the registry helps
Credit	Faster credit disbursement and credit-card-linked crop loans
Crop insurance	Easier access to insurance and crop-area data for fair claims; technology-based yield estimation
MSP procurement	Paperless, targeted procurement at Minimum Support Price
Subsidies and DBT	Direct Benefit Transfer and scheme delivery to the right farmer
Advice	Weather advisories and personalised crop advice, including Bharat-VISTAAR
Inputs	Balanced fertiliser use and smarter fertiliser supply chain
Disaster relief	Crop maps for faster response and digital enablement of relief

Link with Bharat-VISTAAR: AgriStack is the backend data system, while Bharat-VISTAAR is the voice and chat interface that delivers advice. When the farmer's land and crop details are in the registry, the advice can be location-specific.

7. Safe and in the Farmer's Control

Farmers naturally ask: who will see my data? The Ministry states that AgriStack is built in line with the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 and the Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2025.

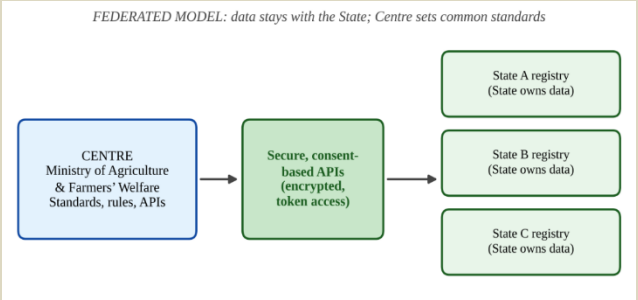


Fig. 6: Federated model: each State owns its farmer registry

Data is collected only with the farmer's consent, and the farmer controls sharing with authorised entities for specific purposes. Data is encrypted, access is through secure, token-based interfaces, and the system follows MeitY and CERT-In cybersecurity guidelines.

The registry is "federated": each State keeps and owns its own data, while the Centre sets common standards so that systems can talk to each other. The consent process works as shown below.

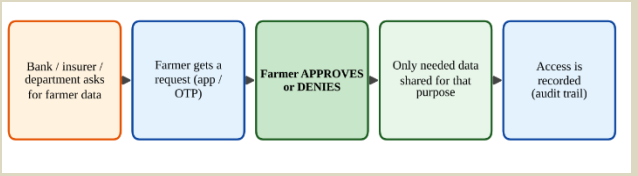


Fig. 7: Consent-based sharing of farmer data

8. Karnataka's Experience: FRUITS

Karnataka was an early mover through FRUITS (Farmer Registration and Unified Beneficiary Information System), developed by the Centre for e-Governance with the State NIC. Each farmer gets one lifetime registration that all farm-related departments

can use, so that documents need not be submitted again for every scheme. It is linked with Aadhaar authentication, Bhoomi land records, Kutumba family records, crop survey, weather and soil data, and supplies validated data to schemes such as MSP procurement, milk subsidy and PM-KISAN. More than 28 projects use FRUITS data.

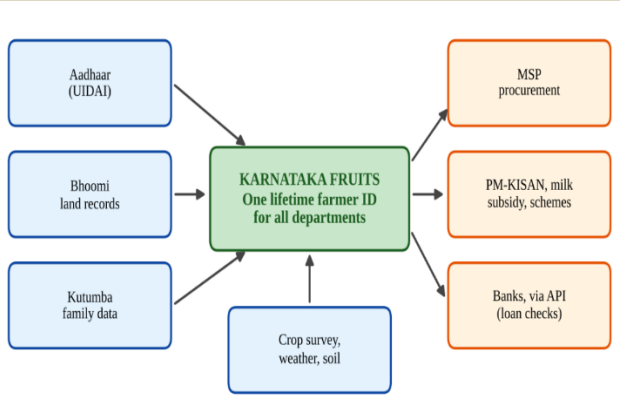


Fig. 8: Karnataka FRUITS: one farmer ID connected to land data and services

Farmers can register through farm-related departments or Grama One centres, and self-registration is also available, subject to officer approval. In 2020, banks were also brought in: lenders can check land and borrowing details through the portal and create charges online without the farmer visiting the Sub-Registrar's office, with Canara Bank taking up a pilot. The Ministry of Agriculture is now replicating the farmer registry idea nationwide. Please confirm the present registration process with your local agriculture office.

Table 4: Before and after Farmer ID (illustrative)

Need	Without registry	With Farmer ID and registry
Proving land	Carry land papers to each office	Verified from linked land record
Crop loan	Repeated paperwork and visits	Lender can fetch verified details with consent
Insurance claim	Slow crop verification	Plot-level crop data supports claims
Advice	General advice for the region	Location- and crop-specific advice

9. Key messages for farmers

- AgriStack is digital infrastructure for agriculture; it is not a direct cash-benefit scheme.
- The Farmer Registry is one of AgriStack's three foundational registries.
- A Farmer ID helps identify a farmer in connected systems; it does not automatically approve a subsidy, loan, insurance claim or procurement registration.
- Accurate personal and land details matter. Seek official correction if records do not match.
- Use your state's official portal, notified registration camp or authorised support centre.
- Protect OTPs, passwords and sensitive documents. Share data only for a clear, authorised purpose.
- Ask for assistance if you are a tenant/sharecropper, have no smartphone or face a record mismatch.

CONCLUSION

AgriStack is an important step towards a more connected and data-informed agricultural service system in India. By bringing together farmer identity, mapped land information and crop records, it can help authorised services identify farmers, verify relevant details and improve planning and delivery of agricultural programmes. Government reporting recorded more than 10.31 crore Farmer IDs by 3 August 2026 and more than 31.3 crore plots covered in the Rabi 2025–26 Digital Crop Survey.

However, technology alone cannot solve every problem. Success depends on accurate records, accessible registration support, transparent procedures, effective grievance redressal, data protection and inclusion of different types of cultivators. Farmers should treat the Farmer ID as a useful digital identity, check that their information is correct, and follow the specific rules of each scheme or service. The real success of AgriStack will be measured not only by the number of IDs created, but by whether farmers can access reliable services more easily, safely and fairly.