

Small tea growers can avail benefits under the PM-KISAN scheme

Synopsis

Assam is the largest producer of tea in India and accounts for 52 percent of India's tea.

By [Bikash Singh](#), ET Bureau

Jul 22, 2021, 07:53 PM IST

Assam **Cabinet** meeting held on Wednesday decided farmers having annual patta (Eksonia Patta), Touji Patta, farmers cultivating in devottar land, farmers eligible to get land patta under Forest Rights Act, small tea growers and horticulture farmers will also be eligible to get benefits under PM-KISAN.

Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar in Lok Sabha said the Centre has to recover Rs 2,992.75 crore as of July 15 from 42.16 **lakh ineligible beneficiary farmers** registered for the central scheme. Of this Rs 554.01 crore, the highest is to be recovered from 8.35 **lakh ineligible farmers** in Assam.

Assam is the largest producer of tea in India and accounts for 52 percent of India's tea. About 49 percent of tea produced in Assam is from the green tea leaves of small tea growers.

The All Assam Small Tea Growers' Association (AASTGA) pegs the number of small growers in Assam at 1.3 lakh, out of an estimated 2.5 lakh across India.

The Cabinet has also decided to authorize Deputy Commissioners to make allotment for extraction of silt from the river basin in respective districts. However, existing rules of the Environment & Forest Department will prevail in case of extraction of sand and stones from rivers.