

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1470**  
ANSWERED ON 12/12/2025

**RIISING FARM DISTRESS AND RELIEF TO FARMERS**

1470. Shri Sanjay Raut:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government acknowledges experts' warnings that farmers are battling skyrocketing input costs, climate disasters, collapsing crop prices and a failed insurance system;
- (b) whether Government will give a legal guarantee to MSP or create a Price Stabilisation Fund instead of leaving farmers to market exploitation;
- (c) whether PMFBY will be overhauled to end delays and include tenant farmers;
- (d) the steps taken to control fertilizer and diesel prices and ensure assured procurement;
- (e) whether a debt relief and pension plan for small farmers is being considered; and
- (f) action taken to strengthen FPOs, agri-processing and support for women farmers.

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) : Agriculture is a State subject. Government of India supports the States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary allocation for schemes for multiple aspects like agriculture inputs, price support etc. The Government has substantially enhanced the budget allocation of Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) from Rs. 21,933.50 crore BE during 2013-14 to Rs. 1,27,290.16 crore BE during 2025-26. The schemes/programmes of the Government of India that aim to mitigate the challenges faced by farmers including input costs, climate disasters, crop insurance and provide remunerative returns are at **Annexure**.

(b) : Every year, Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for 22 mandated agricultural crops based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP). Government had increased MSP for all mandated Kharif, Rabi and other Commercial crops with a minimum return of 50 percent over all India weighted average cost of production from year 2018-19 onwards. Benefits for tenants and marginalized farmers are extended as per procurement norms of concerned State/UT government.

Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) aims to ensure remunerative prices for farmers by strengthening the MSP system. Its key objectives are to provide price support for pulses, oilseeds, and copra; reduce distress sales by guaranteeing minimum assured income to farmers; promote procurement, price deficiency payments, and private participation in procurement; and ultimately ensure that farmers receive fair returns for their produce.

(c): Crop insurance is a major risk mitigation tool for the benefit of farmers. To provide financial support to farmers at the time of losses due to natural calamities, yield index based Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) along with weather index based Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) have been introduced from 2016-17.

PMFBY, provides for comprehensive risk insurance against crop damage from pre-sowing to post-harvest for food crops (cereals, millets and pulses), oilseeds and commercial horticultural crops notified by the concerned State Government. The scheme not only safeguards against wide spread yield loss due to non-preventable natural risks viz. flood, inundation, landslide, drought, dry spells, hailstorm, cyclone, pests/diseases, natural fire and lightning, storm, typhoon, tempest, hurricane, tornado etc. but also against farm level yield loss due to localized risks (hailstorm, landslide, inundation, cloud burst and natural fire) and post harvest losses due to cyclone, cyclonic/unseasonal rain and hailstorm and prevented sowing. Since inception of these schemes till 2024-25 (as on 31st October, 2025), against the farmers premium of Rs. 35,919 crore, claims of Rs. 1,90,374 crore have been to 2301 lakh farmer applications.

All farmers including landless, sharecroppers and tenant farmers growing the notified crops in the notified areas are eligible for coverage. However, farmers should have insurable interest for the insured crops and lands. Such farmers are required to submit necessary documentary evidence of land records prevailing in the State (Records of Right (RoR), Land Possession Certificate (LPC) etc.) and/or applicable contract/ agreement details/ other documents notified/ permitted by concerned State Government in case of sharecroppers/tenant farmers and the same should be defined by the respective States in the notification itself.

The review/revisions / rationalization / improvements in the crop insurance schemes is a continuous process and decision on suggestion/ representations/ recommendations of the stakeholders/studies are taken from time to time. Government has periodically revised the Operational Guidelines of the PMFBY comprehensively to ensure that the eligible benefits under the scheme reach the farmers timely and transparently.

(d): The Government is promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) for balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers, bio-fertilizers and locally available organic manures like farmyard manure, compost, vermi-compost and green manure based on soil testing to maintain soil health and productivity. The Government has fixed the statutory MRP of Neem coated Urea at farm gate level is Rs 266/ 45 kg bag.

PM-KUSUM Scheme launched by the Government in March 2019, which has been last scaled-up in January 2024, aiming for de-dieselisation of the farm sector, providing water and energy security to farmers and curbing environmental pollution.

(e): Government is implementing Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) to provide loan on concessional interest rate through Kisan Credit Card (KCC). Farmers receive KCC loans at a subsidized interest rate of 7%. To facilitate this, an upfront interest subvention (IS) of 1.5% is provided to financial institutions. Additionally, farmers who repay their loans promptly receive a 3% Prompt Repayment Incentive (PRI), effectively reducing the interest rate to 4% per annum. The benefits of IS and PRI are available for loan limits up to Rs. 3 lakhs.

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is an income support scheme for cultivable landholding farmers providing Rs. 6,000 per year in 3 equal instalments. So far, more than Rs. 4.09 lakh crore has been disbursed through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) in 21 instalments to the eligible farmers across the country.

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Mandhan Yojana (PM KMY) is a central sector scheme, is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for the entry age group of 18 to 40 years with a provision of Rs.3000/- monthly pension on attaining the age of 60 years, subject to exclusion criteria. Since the inception of the scheme, over 24.91 lakh small and marginal farmers have joined the PM KMY scheme.

(f): Each FPO registered under the Scheme is provided Rs.18 lakh as management cost over 3 years, matching equity grant of upto Rs.15 lakh per FPO (@Rs.2000/- per farmer) and credit guarantee facility upto Rs.2 crore for project loan from eligible lending institutions. Government, in coordination with States, is facilitating these FPOs in obtaining input licenses including for seed, fertilizer, pesticide, mandi, etc. to enable them to function as agri-business enterprises. The FPOs have been onboarded on digital platforms like e-NAM (Electronic National Agriculture Market), ONDC (Open Network for Digital Commerce) and GeM (Government e-Marketplace) to provide access to digital markets.

Under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), to increase the shelf life of horticulture produce and for value addition processing of horticulture produce, assistance is provided for setting up of primary/mini processing units in all the States. Assistance is also provided for setting up of food processing units in North Eastern and Himalayan States. Under HRD component of MIDH, awareness programmes, farmers training, exposure visit, etc. are being provided to aware farmers about the latest and modern technologies being used in horticulture.

The Government is implementing various schemes and programmes for farmers, including women farmers, as per eligibility and conditions existing in scheme guidelines. The guidelines of the various beneficiary-oriented schemes of DA&FW provide that States and other implementing agencies should incur expenditure on women. The schemes include Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms (ATMA), National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Mission on Edible Oils – Oil Palm (NMEO-OP), National Mission for Edible Oils – Oilseeds (NMEO-OS), Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North East Region (MOVCDNER), Digital Agriculture, Agriculture Marketing and National Bamboo Mission (NBM).

Under the PM – KISAN, Rs. 97,247.83 crore has been disbursed to eligible women farmers in 21 installments so far. Under the AIF, Rs. 16,754 crore (as on 25.11.2025) has been sanctioned for 27,374 projects to women beneficiaries. 1328 Women led FPOs have been registered under 10,000 FPOs scheme.

Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) is a sub-scheme under DAY-NRLM being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development is dedicated to empowering women in agriculture by strengthening community institutions of women farmers and leveraging their collective strength to promote sustainable agricultural practices, improved livestock management and scientific cultivation/collection of Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFPs).

**MAJOR SCHEMES/PROGRAMMES INITIATED BY DA&FW**

1. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)
2. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana (PM-KMY)
3. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)/ Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS)
4. Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS)
5. Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF)
6. Formation and Promotion of 10,000 new Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs)
7. National Bee Keeping and Honey Mission (NBHM)
8. Namo Drone Didi
9. National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF)
10. Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)
11. Agri Fund for Start-Ups & Rural Enterprises (AgriSURE)
12. Per Drop More Crop (PDMC)
13. Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanization (SMAM)
14. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)
15. Soil Health & Fertility (SH&F)
16. Rainfed Area Development (RAD)
17. Agroforestry
18. Crop Diversification Programme (CDP)
19. Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension (SMAE)
20. Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material (SMSP)
21. National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM)
22. Integrated Scheme for Agriculture Marketing (ISAM)
23. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)
24. National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO)-Oil Palm
25. National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO)-Oilseeds
26. Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region
27. Digital Agriculture Mission
28. National Bamboo Mission

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