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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 654 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05/12/2025

PROTECTION OF FOODGRAINS AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE IN MAYURBHANJ

654. SMT. MAMATA MOHANTA:

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

- (a) the steps currently being taken by Government to mitigate the losses of foodgrains and agricultural production of farmers in Mayurbhani district due to monsoon changes and cyclones;
- (b) whether the Ministry has formulated a plan to construct modern storage/warehouses at the Gram Panchayat or Block level to provide relief to farmers and prevent foodgrain losses; and
- (c) whether the Ministry proposes to provide continuous training, technical assistance and financial support for protection against such natural disasters and foodgrains preservation in the future?

ANSWER

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

(a): Under the National Disaster Management Plan, primary responsibility of disaster management including damage assessment and providing relief at ground level, vests with the State Government. Central Government provides requisite logistics and financial support to supplement the efforts of State Government. State Government provides financial relief to the affected people in the event of 12 notified natural disasters from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) in accordance with approved items and norms of Government of India. In the event of disaster of a 'severe nature', additional financial assistance is extended from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) also, as per laid down procedure.

Government also supports farmers through various schemes. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) along with weather index based Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) provide a comprehensive insurance cover against failure of the crop by way of providing financial support to farmers suffering crop loss/damage arising out of unforeseen natural calamities, adverse weather incidence and to help stabilize income of farmers and ensure their continuation of farming. Besides, several measures have been taken to make agriculture climate resilient in the country through National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture. Advisories are also issued to farmers through India Meteorological Department, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) to provide early weather warnings.

District wise data in respect of the measures being taken by the Government is not maintained centrally. However, as reported by State, 11 Rural Godown/Multipurpose Warehouse for storing of food grain have been constructed in Mayurbhanj district under Mukhya Mantri Krishi Udyog Yojana.

(b): For creation of agricultural marketing infrastructure including scientific storage capacity, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India is implementing Capital Subsidy Sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) throughout the country including Mayurbhanj, Odisha. Under the scheme, 3 agricultural marketing infrastructure projects (other than storage) have been sanctioned in Mayurbhanj district and subsidy of Rs.25.46 lakh for Mayurbhanj District has been released.

In addition, under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) launched in 2020 to facilitate affordable medium to term loans for setting up modern post-harvest value-chain infrastructure and viable farming assets, construction of warehouses, godowns, cold storages is also taken up. 147 AIF projects have been sanctioned in Mayurbhanj district for Rs.50.55 crore.

(c): To promote agricultural development by disseminating new technologies and providing weather-based advisories, KVKs conduct regular awareness programmes on climate change, climate resilient and climate smart agricultural practices, and pre- and post-harvest management. KVKs also train farmers in contingent crop planning, skill development for agro-enterprises, and supply essential inputs such as seeds of oilseeds, pulses, millets, mushroom spawn, and vegetable seedlings through various demonstration programmes. In Mayurbhanj district of Odisha, 2 KVKs have been set up to provide such training to the farmers.
