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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 657 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05/12/2025

IRREGULARITIES IN PRADHAN MANTRI FASAL BIMA YOJANA

657. SHRI IMRAN PRATAPGARHI:

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

- (a) the action taken on the complaints of widespread irregularities in the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) so far;
- (b) the Government's view on the issue that farmers in many States are not receiving timely claim payments while insurance companies are making profits;
- (c) the number of claims pending, rejected and the amount returned or withheld by the insurance companies during the last five years; and
- (d) the details of the corrective steps being taken to ensure transparency in the scheme?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): During last five years i.e. from 2020-21 to 2024-25, out of the total calculated claims of Rs. 97,349.81 crore, claims of Rs. 93,891.19 crore (96.44%) have already been paid under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). Claims of Rs. 3,458.62 crore are pending for payment as on 31.10.2025.

All the major work relating to the assessment of crop yield/crop loss for calculation of admissible claims are being performed by the concerned State Government or Joint Committee of State Government officials and concerned insurance company under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). However, during the implementation of PMFBY, some complaints were received in the past about payment of claims which are primarily on account of (a) delay in providing State Government share of subsidy (b) non-payment/delayed payment or under payment of claims on account of incorrect/delayed submission of insurance proposals by banks (c) discrepancy in yield data & consequent disputes between State Government and insurance

companies etc. The pending claims on account of these issue are settled after their resolution as per provisions of the scheme.

Government has taken various steps to strengthen implementation of this scheme all over India including Odisha to bring transparency and ensure timely settlement of claims:

- Government has undertaken development of National Crop Insurance Portal (NCIP) as
 a single source of data ensuring subsidy payment, co-ordination, transparency,
 dissemination of information and delivery of services including direct online enrollment of
 farmers, uploading/obtaining individual insured famer's details for better monitoring and
 to ensure transfer of claim amount electronically to the individual farmer's Bank Account.
- In order to rigorously monitor claim disbursal process, a dedicated module namely 'Digiclaim Module' has been operationalized for payment of claims from Kharif 2022 onwards. It involves integration of NCIP with Public Finance Management System (PFMS) and accounting system of Insurance Companies to provide timely & transparent processing of all claims.
- Delinking of Central Government share of premium subsidy from that of State Governments has been implemented so that farmers can get proportionate claims relating to the Central Government share.
- As per the Operational Guidelines of PMFBY, in case payment is not made timely by Insurance Company, a penalty of 12% is auto-calculated and levied through National Crop Insurance Portal (NCIP) w.e.f. Kharif 2024.
- Similarly, if State Government delayed its premium subsidy from stipulated time period, a penalty of 12% is to be paid by them also.
- Tranche based claims payment has been initiated from 2025-26.
- Also, towards leveraging technology in implementation of the scheme, various steps like capturing of yield data/Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) data through CCE-Agri App & uploading it on the NCIP, allowing insurance companies to witness the conduct of CCEs, integration of State land records with NCIP etc. have already been taken to improve timely settlement of the claims to farmers.

Following technologies for Objective Crop Damage & Loss Assessment and transparency have also been implemented w.e.f. 2023-24 under the scheme:

- i. YES-TECH (Yield Estimation System Based on Technology) for gradual migration to Remote-Sensing based yield estimation to help assess yields as well as fair and accurate Crop Yield Estimation. This initiative has been launched for paddy & wheat crops from Kharif 2023 wherein 30% weightage to yield estimation will mandatorily be assigned to YES-TECH derived yield. Soybean crop has been added from Kharif 2024 season.
- ii. WINDS (Weather Information Network and Data System) for setting up of Network of Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) & Automatic Rain-Gauges (ARG) to the tune of 5 times of existing network for collecting hyper-local weather data at GP & Block level. This will be fed into a National database with interoperability & sharing of data in coordination with India Meteorological Department (IMD). WINDS provides data not only for YES-TECH but also for effective drought & disaster management, accurate weather prediction and offering better parametric insurance products.
