

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

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO-369
ANSWERED ON 27/03/2026

FARMERS SUICIDE DUE TO UNREMUNERATIVE AGRICULTURAL PRICES

*369. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

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

- (a) whether an increase in incidents of farmer suicides due to failure to receive remunerative prices for agricultural crops has been recorded;
- (b) whether more than one lakh farmers have committed suicide in the past decade, due to not receiving remunerative prices;
- (c) the details of farmers' suicides, State-wise, year-wise;
- (d) the steps taken by Government to ensure remunerative and fair prices for farmers in the country; and
- (e) the reasons which hinder giving a guarantee of purchase at Minimum Support Price (MSP) rate?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the house.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 369 REGARDING “FARMERS SUICIDE DUE TO UNREMUNERATIVE AGRICULTURAL PRICES” FOR REPLY ON 27/03/2026

(a) to (c): The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides in its publication titled ‘Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India’ (ADSI). The report till 2023 is available on NCRB website (<https://ncrb.gov.in>). Reasons for suicides are wide ranging. Agriculture is a State Subject. Ex gratia or relief is provided by State Governments as per State provisions & rules.

(d) & (e): Department of Agriculture & Farmers’ Welfare has launched various schemes aimed at increasing agricultural productivity and production through direct yield enhancement include the National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM), Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses, National Mission on Edible Oils–Oil Palm(NMEO-OP), National Mission on Edible Oils–Oilseeds(NMEO-OS), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Crop Diversification Programme (CDP) and the Soil Health and Fertility Scheme. Government of India supports the States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary allocation for schemes for farmer welfare, to increase production, provide remunerative returns and income support. The Government has substantially enhanced the budget allocation of DA&FW from Rs. 21,933.50 crore BE during 2013-14 to Rs.1,30,561.38 crore BE during 2026-27.

Every year, Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for 22 mandated agricultural crops for the country as a whole, based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), after considering the views of the State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments concerned. The Union Budget for 2018-19 had announced the pre-determined principle to keep MSPs at levels of one and half times of the cost of production. Accordingly, Government had increased MSPs 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. The details of year wise Cost of Production and Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of 22 mandated crops during last two years are given at **Annexure**.

The Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) aims to ensure remunerative prices for farmers by strengthening the MSP framework and preventing distress sales. It provides price support for pulses, oilseeds, and copra, promotes procurement operations, enables price deficiency payments, and facilitates private sector participation to ensure fair returns to farmers.

Under the scheme, oilseeds, pulses, and copra of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) are procured from registered farmers at MSP through the Price Support Scheme (PSS), in consultation with the concerned State Governments, whenever market prices fall below MSP. Additionally, States/UTs have the option to implement either the Price Support Scheme (PSS) or the Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) for a particular oilseed crop during a procurement season. Further, to encourage domestic production and ensure remunerative prices, procurement of Tur, Urad, and Masur from pre-registered farmers is undertaken to the extent offered by them through Central Nodal Agencies under the Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses till 2030-31.

During the period from 2014-15 to 2025-26, the Government procured 160.15 lakh metric tonnes of oilseeds and 192.88 lakh metric tonnes of pulses. Under the Price Support Scheme (PSS), and made payments amounting to ₹88,765.87 crore and ₹1,08,184.78 crore respectively.

For strengthening of MSP procurement and expanding its benefits to more farmers, adequate number of Procurement centres are opened by respective State Government Agencies, taking into account the production, marketable surplus, convenience of farmers and availability of other logistics / infrastructure such as storage and transportation etc. Temporary purchase centres, in addition to the existing Mandis and depots/godowns are also established at key points.

The procurement operation is a continuously evolving process and during the last few years, procurement processes under Minimum Support Price (MSP) have improved to ensure payment of MSP to farmer's bank account directly and linkage of Aadhaar and Land records with the State's procurement portals ensuring the farmers directly get the benefits of the MSP purchase.

Increase in MSP procurement from Eastern States and North Eastern States during 2014-26 (upto February 2026) as compared to 2004-14 exhibits that the procurement operations have expanded in previously less covered areas.

(Figure in LMT)

	Eastern States	North Eastern States
2004-14	739.88	11.13
2014-26 (upto February 2026)	1492.71	38.77

Increased MSP has benefited farmers of the country is also evident from data of procurement and MSP amount paid to the farmers. The details of procurement and MSP amount paid to farmers during 2004-2014 and 2014-2026 (upto February 2026) for 22 MSP Crops (14 Kharif crops viz. paddy, jowar, bajra, maize, ragi, tur (arhar), moong, urad, groundnut, soyabean, sunflower, sesamum, nigerseed, cotton and 6 Rabi crops viz. wheat, barley, gram, masur (lentil), rapeseed & mustard, safflower and two commercial crops viz. jute and copra) are given as under:

2004-2014		2014-2026 (upto February 2026)	
Total Procurement (In LMT)	Total MSP Value (In Lakh Crore)	Total Procurement (In LMT)	Total MSP Value (In Lakh Crore)
6987	7.41	12,292	26.32

Announcement of Minimum Support Price (MSP) by the Government and sanction of procurement at MSP by Central Nodal Agencies (CNAs), impacts markets positively improving market price, even at or above MSP. Farmers participating in procurement as well as those selling in the open market benefit from the MSP announcement. Farmers decide the quantity of produce for sale at MSP based on their marketable surplus. Further, they are free to sell their produce anywhere if they get better price than the MSP.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) & (e) OF RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 369 DUE FOR REPLY ON 27.03.2026**

All India weighted cost of production (₹/quintal) and Minimum Support Price (Marketing Season-wise)					
Sr. No.	Commodities	KMS 2024-25		KMS 2025-26	
	<u>KHARIF CROPS</u>	All India weighted cost of production	MSP	All India weighted cost of production	MSP
1	Paddy (Common)	1533	2300	1579	2369
	Paddy (Grade 'A')		2320		2389
2	Jowar (Hybrid)	2247	3371	2466	3699
	Jowar (Maldandi)		3421		3749
3	Bajra	1485	2625	1703	2775
4	Ragi	2860	4290	3257	4886
5	Maize	1447	2225	1508	2400
6	Arhar	4761	7550	5038	8000
7	Moong	5788	8682	5845	8768
8	Urad	4883	7400	5114	7800
9	Cotton (Medium Staple)	4747	7121	5140	7710
	Cotton (Long Staple)		7521		8110
10	Groundnut	4522	6783	4842	7263
11	Sunflower Seed	4853	7280	5147	7721
12	Soyabean Yellow	3261	4892	3552	5328
13	Sesamum	6178	9267	6564	9846
14	Nigerseed	5811	8717	6358	9537

All India weighted cost of production (₹/quintal) and Minimum Support Price (Marketing Season-wise)							
	<u>RABI CROPS</u>	RMS 2024-25		RMS 2025-26		RMS 2026-27	
		All India weighted cost of production	MSP	All India weighted cost of production	MSP	All India weighted cost of production	MSP
15	Wheat	1128	2275	1182	2425	1239	2585
16	Barley	1158	1850	1239	1980	1361	2150
17	Gram	3400	5440	3527	5650	3699	5875
18	Masur	3405	6425	3537	6700	3705	7000
19	Rapeseed & mustard	2855	5650	3011	5950	3210	6200
20	Safflower	3807	5800	3960	5940	4360	6540
	COMMERCIAL CROPS						
		2024-25		2025-26		2026-27	
21	Jute	3237	5335	3387	5650	3662	5925
			2024		2025		2026
22	Copra (milling)	7350	11160	7721	11582	8018	12027
	Copra (ball)		12000		12100		12500

Note: KMS: Kharif Marketing Season, RMS: Rabi Marketing Season
