

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 820**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/02/2026

**RELIEF TO FARMERS AFFECTED BY FLOOD AND DROUGHT IN BIHAR**

820. SMT. DHARMSHILA GUPTA:

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

- (a) the Central schemes currently being implemented in the State of Bihar to provide relief to farmers affected by floods and droughts;
- (b) the number of farmers affected by floods and drought in Bihar that have been given compensation over the past three years; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to make the relief and compensation distribution process more effective and timebound?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): As per the National Policy on Disaster Management (NPDM), the State Government is primarily responsible for providing necessary relief measures on ground level in the wake of notified calamities including floods. The State Governments undertake relief measures in the wake of natural calamities from funds available in the form of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) in accordance with the Government of India approved items and norms. Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), as per laid down procedure, in case of disaster of 'severe nature', which includes an assessment based on the visit of an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT). The financial assistance provided under SDRF and NDRF is by way of relief and not for compensation of losses suffered/ claimed.

Details of SDRF allocation & releases in past three years:

Year	Centre's Share of SDRF Released (in crores)
2022-23	1189.60
2023-24	1248.80
2024-25	1311.20
2025-26	688.40*

\* - first installment

Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare introduced Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna (PMFBY) in the country from Kharif 2016 season. PMFBY provides for comprehensive risk insurance against crop damage from pre-sowing to post-harvest for crops and area notified

by the concerned State Government. The scheme not only safeguards against wide spread yield loss due to non-preventable natural risks/ & extreme climate calamities such as flood, inundation, etc. but also against farm level yield loss due to localized risks (including inundation, cloud burst etc) and post harvest losses due to cyclone, cyclonic/unseasonal rain and hailstorm and prevented sowing. This scheme is voluntary for States as well as farmers. All willing farmers are eligible to enrol under the scheme. However, State of Bihar after implementing the scheme for one or more seasons, opted out of it.

As reported by the State of Bihar, the number of beneficiary farmers affected by floods in Bihar that have been given Agriculture Input Subsidy is given below:-

S. No.	Year	Number of benefited Farmers
1	2021-22	13,23,615
2	2022-23	89,362
3	2023-24	--
4	2024-25	2,49,330

In the wake of natural calamity of severe nature, like floods, cyclone, IMCT is constituted immediately without waiting for a Memorandum from the State to visit the affected areas of the States so as to have the first hand assessment of the damages caused and the relief work carried out by the State Administration. In respect of Drought, the timelines for assessment and relief mechanism are as under:

- The State Governments will notify Kharif drought by 31st October and the Rabi drought by 31st March. The Memorandum for assistance will be submitted to the DA&FW within a week of the declaration; in case the drought is of severe nature.
- The DA&FW will constitute and dispatch an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) to the drought affected area within a week of receipt of the Memorandum from the State Government. The IMCT will submit a report for the consideration of the Central Government within 7 days of all relevant information provided by the State Government, following the visit to the drought affected areas. The Central Government will take a final decision on the assistance to the State from the NDRF within a month of the receipt of the IMCT Report.
- The State Governments, will ensure disbursement of agriculture input subsidy to affected farmers within one month from the date of receipt of Central assistance from the NDRF. Various instruments of Direct Benefit Transfer to beneficiaries will be employed to ensure efficiency and transparency in the process of fund transfer.

The Relief Commissioner of the States ably assisted by District administration is responsible for periodic monitoring of relief operations for various calamities.

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