

O.I.H.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION & FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 99
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24TH JULY, 2018

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR FARMERS

*99. SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण
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be pleased to state:

- (a) the major recommendations made by the National Commission for Farmers;
- (b) the status of implementation of these recommendations;
- (c) whether farmers are still facing problems despite the follow-up action taken by various stakeholders on the recommendations of the Commission;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the comprehensive measures taken by the Government to address the various problems faced by the farmers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण ½âãè

(SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH)

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 99 DUE FOR REPLY ON 24TH JULY, 2018.**

(a) & (b): Government had constituted the National Commission on Farmers (NCF) under the Chairmanship of Dr. M. S. Swaminathan in 2004. The Commission submitted five reports to the Government. The major recommendations of the Commission contained in the five reports were included in the 'Draft National Policy for Farmers' submitted by the Commission itself in 2006. Based on the 'Draft National Policy for Farmers', the Government approved the National Policy for Farmers (NPF)-2007, which aims to improve economic viability of farming and increase net income of farmers.

Policy provisions in NPF-2007 include, inter-alia, (i) asset reforms in respect of land, water, livestock, fisheries and bio-resources; (ii) supply of good quality seeds and disease-free planting material, (iii) issue of soil health passbooks to the farmers and integrated pest management system; (iv) region and crop specific implements and machinery; (v) support services for women; (vi) timely, adequate and easy reach of institutional credit at reasonable interest rates and farmer-friendly insurance instruments; (vii) support services and inputs like application of frontier technologies; (viii) agricultural bio-security system; (ix) use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and setting up of farm schools to revitalize agricultural extension; (x) coverage of farmers under a comprehensive national social security scheme; (xi) effective implementation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) across the country and establishing community foodgrain banks; (xii) development of agricultural market infrastructure and terminal markets for agriculture; (xiii) curriculum reforms in agricultural universities; (xiv) special categories of farming like organic farming and contract farming; (xv) rural non-farm employment initiative for farm households; and (xvi) integrated approach for rural energy, etc.

After the approval of NPF 2007, in keeping with Para 12.2 of the NPF 2007, an Inter-Ministerial Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of the Principal Adviser in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for preparation of a Plan of Action (PoA) for Operationalisation of the Policy. The Committee identified 201 Action Points from NPF, 2007, where necessary action had to be taken. Of the 201 number of action points identified, 192 numbers have already been implemented as of date. The various schemes/programmes/missions adopted by the Ministry are based on the National Policy for Farmers-2007.

(c) to (e): Agriculture being as a State subject, the State Governments are primarily responsible for the growth and development of agriculture sector and developing perspective plans for their respective States and ensuring effective implementation of the programmes/schemes. However, Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various Schemes/ Programmes.

To address the various problems faced by the farmers, the Government has set a target of doubling of farmers' income by the year 2022. The Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Executive Officer, National Rainfed Area Authority, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare to examine issues relating to doubling of farmers' income and recommend a strategy to achieve doubling of farmers' income in real terms by the year 2022. At present, thirteen volumes prepared by the Committee have been uploaded on the website of this Department (<http://agricoop.nic.in/doubling-farmers>) for seeking public opinion.

The Government is aiming to reorient agriculture sector by focusing on income centeredness in addition to pure production- centeredness. A farmer's income is a basket of earnings from agriculture (including horticulture), allied activities like dairy, livestock, poultry, fishery etc. and ancillary activities like beekeeping etc. Apart from these farm incomes, he also earns from other activities like wage labour, off-farm activities etc. Earnings from agriculture constitute the principal source of income of a farmer.

There has been a big jump in the much needed budgetary allocations for the agriculture sector. For the period 2009-2014, the budget for agriculture was Rs.1,21,082 crore. During 2014-2019, the allocation has been enhanced by 74.5 per cent to Rs.2,11,694 crore. Non-budgetary resources have been mobilized to supplement budgetary resources. Following are the corpus fund created during 2014-19:

- Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF) to complete long pending 99 irrigation projects and create 7.6 million ha of irrigation by December 2019 - Rs.40,000 crore (2016-17 and 2017-18). The total investment is expected to be Rs. 80,000 crore (approx)
- Micro Irrigation Fund for water use efficiency - Rs.5,000 crore (2017-18)
- Dairy Infrastructure Development Fund - Rs.10,881 crore (2017-18)
- Fisheries and Aqua Culture Infrastructure Development Fund - Rs.7,522.48 crore (2018-19)
- Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund – Rs.2,450 crore (2018-19)
- Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund - Rs. 2,000 crore (2018-19).

The Department has been implementing various schemes for betterment of agriculture sector such as :

- (i) Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme by which the farmers can know the major and minor nutrients available in their soils which will ensure judicious use of fertilizer application and thus save input cost of farmers.
- (ii) Neem Coated Urea (NCU) is being promoted to regulate use of urea, enhance availability of nitrogen to the crop and reduce cost of fertilizer application. NCU slows down the release of fertilizer and makes it available to the crop in an effective manner.
- (iii) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is being implemented with a view to promote organic farming in the country.
- (iv) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) was launched on 1st July, 2015 with the motto of 'Har Khet Ko Paani' for providing end-to-end solutions in irrigation supply chain, comprising water sources, distribution network and farm level applications.
- (v) Electronic National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) which is an innovative market process to revolutionize agri-markets by ensuring better price discovery, bringing in transparency and competition to enable farmers to get improved remuneration for their produce moving towards 'One Nation One Market'. The Department has achieved the target of integration of 585 mandis with e-NAM by March 2018. Additional 200 mandis to be integrated by 2018-19 under e-NAM.
- (vi) Existing 22,000 rural haats to be developed and upgraded into Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs). These GrAMs, electronically linked to e-NAM portal and exempted from regulations of Agriculture Produce Marketing Committees (APMCs), will provide farmers facility to make direct sale to consumers and bulk purchasers.

(vii) The Model Agricultural Produce & Livestock Marketing (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2017 released in April, 2017 and the Model Agricultural Produce & Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2018 released in May, 2018, for adoption by State/UTs, to promote alternative competitive marketing channels for better pricing for farmers and to encourage private investment in developing efficient marketing infrastructure and value chain.

(viii) Government has introduced Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) from Kharif 2016 to address the risks associated with agriculture. PMFBY addresses all the shortcomings in the earlier schemes and is available to the farmers at very low rates of premium. The farmers will get full insurance cover as there is no capping of sum insured and consequently the claim amount is not curtailed or reduced. This scheme provides insurance cover at all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances.

(ix) The Government provides total interest subvention up to 5% (inclusive of 3% prompt repayment incentive) on short-term crop loans up to Rs. 3.00 lakh. Thus, loan is available to farmers at a reduced rate of 4% per annum on prompt repayment.

(x) The Government is implementing several Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz. National Food Security Mission (NFSM); Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH); National Mission on Oilseeds & Oilpalm (NMOOP); National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA); National Mission on Agricultural Extension & Technology (NMAET) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for benefit of farmers.

Further, Minimum Support Price (MSP) is notified for both Kharif and Rabi crops based on the recommendations of the Commission on Agriculture Costs & Prices (CACP). The Commission collects & analyses data on cost of activation and recommends MSP. In the budget for 2018-19 the Government had announced that MSP for all unannounced Kharif crops will be 1.5 times the cost of production. Giving a major boost for the farmers income, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 04.07.2018 has approved the increase in the MSPs for all Kharif crops for 2018-19 season at a level of at least 150 percent of the cost of production. The MSP declared during 2012-13 to 2018-19 for various crops is at **Annexure.**

Annexure

Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 99 for 24.07.2018 statement in respect of part (c) to (e) of the question regarding 'National Commission for Farmers'

7 years MSP Statement

(Rs per quintal)

Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	<u>KHARIF CROPS</u>								
1	PADDY	Common	1250	1310	1360	1410	1470	1550	1750
		Grade 'A'	1280	1345	1400	1450	1510	1590	1770
2	JOWAR	Hybrid	1500	1500	1530	1570	1625	1700	2430
		Maldandi	1520	1520	1550	1590	1650	1725	2450
3	BAJRA		1175	1250	1250	1275	1330	1425	1950
4	MAIZE		1175	1310	1310	1325	1365	1425	1700
5	RAGI		1500	1500	1550	1650	1725	1900	2897
6	ARHAR(Tur)		3850	4300	4350	4625^	5050^^	5450^	5675
7	MOONG		4400	4500	4600	4850^	5225^^	5575^	6975
8	URAD		4300	4300	4350	4625^	5000^^	5400^	5600
9	COTTON	Medium Staple	3600	3700	3750	3800	3860	4020	5150
		Long Staple	3900	4000	4050	4100	4160	4320	5450
10	GROUNDNUT IN SHELL		3700	4000	4000	4030	4220*	4450^	4890
11	SUNFLOWER SEED		3700	3700	3750	3800	3950*	4100*	5388
12	SOYABEEN	Black	2200	2500	2500	-	-	-	-
		Yellow ##	2240	2560	2560	2600	2775*	3050^	3399
13	SESAMUM		4200	4500	4600	4700	5000^	5300*	6249
14	NIGERSEED		3500	3500	3600	3650	3825*	4050*	5877
	<u>RABI CROPS</u>								
15	WHEAT		1350	1400	1450	1525	1625	1735	
16	BARLEY		980	1100	1150	1225	1325	1410	
17	GRAM		3000	3100	3175	3500**	4000^	4400@	
18	MASUR (LENTIL)		2900	2950	3075	3400**	3950@	4250*	
19	RAPSEED/MUSTARD		3000	3050	3100	3350	3700*	4000*	
20	SAFFLOWER		2800	3000	3050	3300	3700*	4100*	
21	TORIA		2970	3020	3020	3290	3560	3900*	
	<u>OTHER CROPS</u>								
22	COPRA	Milling	5100	5250	5250	5550	5950	6500	7511
		(Calender Year)	Ball	5350	5500	5500	5830	6240	6785
23	DE-HUSKED COCONUT (Calender Year)		1400	1425	1425	1500	1600	1760	2030
24	JUTE		2200	2300	2400	2700	3200	3500	3700
25	SUGARCANE#		170	210	220	230	230	255	275

Fair and remunerative price.

Single MSP of Soyabean (yellow) is recommended by CACP since 2015-16, as black variety of soyabean is no longer cultivated in major producing states. Since 2015-16, MSP of Soyabean yellow is also applicable to black variety

* Including Bonus of Rs. 100 per quintal.

** Including Bonus of Rs. 75 per quintal .

^ Including Bonus of Rs. 200 per quintal.

^^ Including Bonus of Rs. 425 per quintal.

@ including bonus of Rs. 150 per quintal