

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

**LOK SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3708  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 16<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2019

**DOUBLING INCOME OF FARMERS**

3708. SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the performance of schemes implemented for doubling the income of farmers till the year 2022, if so, the shortcomings creating hurdles in doubling the income of farmers;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to rectify the said shortcomings;
- (c) the extent to which quality of life of farmers particularly small and marginal farmers has improved due to new initiatives, schemes and programmes; and
- (d) the assistance provided to the State Governments for implementation of schemes and programmes for welfare of farmers?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): All schemes of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare are for enhanced agriculture production and related activities to contribute to the national target of doubling farmers' income by 2022. Every scheme has an inbuilt mechanism for periodical review in consultation with the implementing states and suitable measures are taken for improving outcomes, as required.

(c): Agriculture being a State subject, the State Governments undertake development of perspective plans and ensures effective implementation of the programmes/ schemes. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various Schemes/ Programmes aimed at inter-alia improving production, post harvest management, progressive agri-market reforms, access to credit, risk management and income support. Some important initiatives for improvement in the quality of life of farmers include:

i) Simplification of procedures to avail Kisan Credit Cards (KCC), which provides agriculture credit to farmers at subsidized rates, with a 2% interest subvention (IS) and Prompt Repayment Incentive (PRI) of 3% so as to make the effective rate of interest as 4% include:

- a) Activities relating to Animal Husbandry and Fisheries included in KCC - benefits of IS and PRI also extended
- b) Indian Banker's Association has waived off processing fee, inspection, ledger folio charges and all other service charges for renewal/fresh issue of KCC.
- c) RBI has raised the collateral free existing agriculture loan limit from Rs.1 lakh to Rs.1.60 lakh.
- ii) Claims of Rs. 8,665 crore were paid to 553.01 lakh farmers in the year 2018-19 under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).
- iii) Giving a major boost for the farmers income, the Government approved the increase in the Minimum Support Price (MSPs) for all Kharif & Rabi crops for 2018-19 season at a level of at least 150 percent of the cost of production.
- iv) To provide income support to all farmers' families across the country and enable them to take care of expenses related to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs, the Government started a new Central Sector Scheme, namely, the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN). The scheme aims to provide a payment of Rs. 6000/- per year, in three 4-monthly installments of Rs. 2000/- to the farmers, subject to certain exclusions relating to higher income groups. An amount of Rs. 12646.579 crore has been distributed to 632.32895 lakh farmers in the year 2018-19.
- v) To provide social security net for Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF) as they have minimal or no savings to provide for old age and to support them in the event of consequent loss of livelihood, the Government has decided to implement another new Central Sector Scheme for providing old age pension to these farmers. Under this Scheme, a minimum fixed pension of Rs. 3000/- be provided to the eligible small and marginal farmers, subject to certain exclusion clauses, on attaining the age of 60 years. The scheme aims to cover around 5 crore beneficiaries in the first three years. It would be a voluntary and contributory pension scheme, with entry age of 18 to 40 years. The Government has approved a budgetary provision of Rs. 10774.50 crore for the scheme till March, 2022.
- (vi) Giving a major boost to the pro-farmer initiatives, the Government has approved a new Umbrella Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)'. The Scheme is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce as announced in the Union Budget for 2018. This is an unprecedented step taken by Govt. of India towards the welfare of farmers.
- (vii) 585 wholesale regulated markets of 16 States and 02 UTs have been integrated with National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) platform. e-NAM has recently achieved another milestone by commencing inter-State trade between mandis of two different States. Earlier trade used to happen either within the Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) or between two APMCs situated within same state. Eleven States/UT have participated in inter-state trade on e-NAM platform.
- (d): During the year 2018-19, an amount of Rs. 11,731.67 crore has been released to the State Governments for implementation of various schemes for welfare of farmers by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare.