

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

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. 196

TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2023

DOUBLING OF FARMERS' INCOME

*196. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched new initiatives, schemes, programmes and yojanas to benefit the farmers and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has reviewed the performance of the schemes implemented to double the income of farmers by the year 2022 and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to remove the obstacles hindering the doubling of farmers' income;
- (d) the extent to which the said initiatives, schemes, programmes and yojanas have improved the quality of life of farmers, particularly small and marginal farmers;
- (e) the role of the Union and State Governments in implementing the said initiatives, schemes, programmes and yojanas for the welfare of farmers with unirrigated land in Rajasthan; and
- (f) the kind of assistance provided for effective implementation of the said schemes?

ANSWER

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) to (f): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (f) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 196 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 14th MARCH, 2022.**

(a) to (d): Agriculture is a state subject. The Government of India is committed to the welfare of farmers. It has launched various central sector and centrally sponsored schemes from time to time covering entire spectrum of agriculture in order to ensure welfare of farmers including small and marginal farmers in the country. Apart from the schemes, Government of India has also taken several initiatives to enhance income and improve quality of life of farmers. In this regard, Government had constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee in April, 2016 to examine issues relating to “Doubling of Farmers Income (DFI)” and recommended strategies to achieve the same. The Committee submitted its final report to the Government in September, 2018 containing the strategy for doubling of farmers’ income through various policies, reforms & programmes. To achieve the objective, the Committee identified seven sources of income growth;

- i. Increase in crop productivity
- ii. Increase in livestock productivity
- iii. Resource use efficiency – reduction in cost of production
- iv. Increase in cropping intensity
- v. Diversification to high value agriculture
- vi. Remunerative prices on farmers’ produce
- vii. Shift of surplus manpower from farm to non-farm occupations

Unprecedented Growth in Agriculture Budget

In line with the strategy, Government has adopted/implemented several developmental programmes, schemes, reforms and policies for achieving higher incomes for the farmers. There has been an unprecedented enhancement in budget allocation since 2013-14. In the year 2013-14 the Budget Estimate (BE) of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare was only Rs 27,662.67 crore. This has increased by more than 4.52 time to Rs 125035.79 crore in 2023-24.

Record Production in Food and Horticulture

Food grain production has increased from 265.05 million tonnes in 2013-14 to record 323.55 million tonnes in 2022-23 (as per 2nd advance estimates) which is the highest ever food grain production. The horticulture production was 342.33 million MTs which is highest ever for Indian Horticulture.

Growth in Export of Agricultural commodities

The country has witnessed emphatic growth in export of agri and allied commodities. Agri and allied export has increased from 41.86 billion USD in 2020-21 to 50.24 billion USD in 2021-22 i.e. an increase of 19.99%.

Increase in Minimum Support Price

Government has increased the MSP for all mandated Kharif, Rabi and other commercial crops with a return of at least 50 per cent over all India weighted average cost of production from 2018-19. MSP for Paddy (common) has increased to Rs. 2040 per quintal in 2022-23 from Rs. 1310 per quintal in 2013-14. MSP for Wheat increased from Rs. 1400 per quintal in 2013-14 to Rs. 2125 per quintal in 2022-23. Also there has been an increase in procurement from farmers.

Income support and Risk Cover

PM-KISAN provides income support to farmers. Since its launch, more than Rs. 2.41 lakh crore has been released to more than 11 crore farmers. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) was launched in 2016 addressing problems of high premium rates for farmers and reduction in sum insured due to capping. In past 6 Years of implementation, 37.66 crore farmer applications enrolled and over 12.38 crore farmer applicants have received claims of over Rs. 1,30,185 crore.

Institutional Credit for Agriculture Sector

Institutional credit for agriculture sector is increased from Rs. 7.3 lakh crore in 2013-14 with a target to reach Rs. 18.5 lakh crore in 2022-23. Benefit of concessional institutional credit through KCC at 4% interest per annum has also now been extended to Animal Husbandry and Fisheries farmers for meeting their short-term working capital needs.

A special drive has been undertaken since February 2020 to provide concessional institutional credit with focus on covering all PM-KISAN beneficiaries through Kisan Credit Cards (KCC). As on 24.02.2023, 400.09 lakh new KCC applications have been sanctioned with a sanctioned credit limit of Rs. 4,69,989 crore as part of the drive.

Promotion of Organic Farming

The schemes Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) cater to the promotion of organic farming in the country. Under PKVY Scheme 32,384 clusters (20 ha each) formed, 6.53 lakh ha area covered and 16.19 lakh farmers have been benefitted.

Gol has already initiated Natural Farming through implementation of Bhartiya Prakritik Krishi Padhati (BPKP- a sub scheme of PKVY) since 2020-21. A total of 4.09 lakh ha area has already been covered in 8 States under BPKP. The BPKP scheme is being up scaled in Mission Mode as a separate as National Mission on Natural Farming to cover 7.5 lakh ha area by developing 15000 clusters. Under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), scheme for holistic growth of the horticulture sector, an additional area of 12.16 lakh ha. of identified horticulture crops has been covered.

Agricultural Infrastructure Fund

In order to mobilize a medium - long term debt financing facility for investment in agri Infrastructure, Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) of Rs one lakh crore was launched in 2020. All loans under this financing facility have interest subvention of 3% per annum up to a limit of 2 crore.

Promotion of FPOs

The Government of India has launched the Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)" in the year 2020. 4676 FPOs have been registered under the scheme so far. A National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM) has been launched in 2020 as part of the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. Rs. 500 crores for the period 2020-2021 to 2022-2023 has been allocated for beekeeping sector.

Per Drop More Crop (PDMC)

In order to increase water use efficiency at the farm level through Micro Irrigation technologies i.e. drip and sprinkler irrigation systems, Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme was launched during 2015-16. An area of 72.24 lakh hectare has been covered under Micro irrigation through the PDMC scheme since 2015-16. Moreover, a Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF) of initial corpus Rs 5000 crore was created with NABARD. In the Budget Announcement for 2021-22, the corpus of the fund was increased to Rs.10000 crores.

Promotion of Drone Technology in Agriculture

Looking into the unique advantages of drone technologies in agriculture, a Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) has been released. In order to make this technology affordable to the farmers and other stakeholders of this sector, financial assistance @ 100 % cost of drone together with the contingent expenditure is provided for its demonstration on the farmers' fields. So far an amount of Rs. 124.43 crores have been released towards Kisan drone promotion.

Setting up E-NAM extension platform

Government has set up a National Agriculture Market (eNAM), a pan-India electronic trading portal which networks the existing APMC mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities. 1260 mandis of 22 States and 03 UTs have been integrated to e-NAM platform and more than 1.74 Crore Farmers & 2.39 Lakh traders have been registered on e-NAM portal.

Agri Startups

Under RKVY Agri-startup Programme, during FY 2019-20 to 2022-23, 1138 Start-ups have been selected and Rs. 69.24 crore released as grants-in-aid for funding these Start-ups.

International Year of Millets

Since the declaration of the International Year of Millets (IYM) 2023 by the UNGA in 2021, Government has taken a proactive multi stakeholder engagement approach to achieve the aim of IYM 2023 and taking Indian millets globally. In order to investigate the gaps and challenges across the millets value chain and implementation of suitable solutions, 6 task forces were constituted. Also, 25 seed-hubs have been established to ensure availability of quality seed of latest improved varieties of Nutri cereals in the country. Millet missions have been launched across 5 states including Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Karnataka. More than 500 start-ups and 350 FPOs have been established and are operational in the millet ecosystem as of now.

Review and Monitoring

In order to improve transparency and ease of living of farmers the use of technology is incorporated in the schemes such as PMKISAN and PMFBY, the cluster based approach is promoted in the schemes such as NFSM and MIDH, value chain development is promoted through FPOs and participation of agri startups etc. Effective implementation of schemes is also ensured through measures such as setting up of Project Management Units, Management Information Systems, Direct Benefit Transfer, aadhar authentication of beneficiary data, validation through PFMS etc.

Government is also building up digital agriculture ecosystem, agristack, for better planning, monitoring, policy making, strategy formulation and smooth implementation of schemes. The components include core registries, base databases, farmers' database, linking farmers' ID linked with land records, geo-referencing of plots, crop survey, crop planning and soil mapping, soil fertility, Unified Farmers Service Interface for state, private players and data exchange.

The efforts of Government at positive implementation of these schemes have yielded remarkable results towards augmenting the income of the farmers. As part of the 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav', Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has released a book, which contains compilation of success stories of 75,000 farmers out of innumerable successful farmers who have increased their income more than two times.

(e) & (f) The Union and state governments are working in close coordination in planning and implementation of the schemes of Government of India and state governments to ensure that intended benefits of the schemes are reaching the farmers. Various kinds of assistance are provided to the farmers in different schemes. A brief on major schemes implemented by the Government of India for the welfare of farmers with unirrigated land including the state of Rajasthan is given in the **Annexure- I**.

Major schemes implemented for the welfare of farmers with unirrigated land

1. **Rainfed Area Development (RAD)** is being implemented from 2014-15 in the country. Since 2014-15 to 2022-23 till date, Rs 1580.98 crore has been released to all states including Rs 34.39 crore for Rajasthan. The area covered under the scheme during this period is 6.94 lakh ha. out of which 0.184 lakh ha is in Rajasthan.

2. **Per Drop More Crop Scheme (PDMC)**

Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) is implemented in the country from 2015-16. The PDMC focuses on enhancing water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation viz Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation Systems. Since 2015-16 to 2022-23 till date, Rs 17963.77 crore has been released to all states including Rs 1108.82 crore for Rajasthan. The area covered under the scheme during this period is 74.52 lakh ha. out of which 5.35 lakh ha is in Rajasthan.

3. **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)**

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) was launched during the year 2015-16, with an aim to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on-farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices, etc. Since 2015-16 to 2021-22, Rs 13754.01 crore has been released to all states including Rs 458.56 crore for Rajasthan. The Irrigation Potential Created under the scheme during this period is 2447.37 thousand ha. out of which 7.24 thousand ha is in Rajasthan.

The extension of PMKSY for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26 has been approved by Government of India, with an overall outlay of Rs. 93,068.56 crore (central assistance of Rs. 37,454 crore, debt servicing to NABARD for Rs. 20,434.56 crore and an outlay for Rs. 35,180 crore by the State Governments towards State share).
