

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1871
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1ST AUGUST, 2023

PADDY CULTIVATION

1871. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware of sustained loss in paddy cultivation suffered by farmers in kuttanad in kerala State, ever since the massive floods of 2018;

(b) if so, the details of total paddy crop loss in kuttanad region from 2018 till 2022 and action taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government will incentivize the farmers by providing them with additional financial support and to prevent farmers from discontinuing paddy farming; and,

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): The State Government of Kerala has reported that Kuttanad paddy land includes the paddy cultivation in Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta and Kottayam districts. After the massive floods in 2018, there has been loss in paddy cultivation area. During 2018-2022, loss of paddy crop area has been calculated as 22,828.16 hectares in these three districts. During this period compensation of Rs.1,990.63 lakh has been sanctioned to 17,759 farmers.

(c) & (d): The State Government of Kerala has reported that paddy farmers are provided financial assistance and are also supported in adoption of scientific cultivation practices in rice. The State Government is providing financial assistance of Rs.5,500/- per hectare

to farmers for using HYV seeds, organic manure, bio-pesticides etc. Special financial assistance of Rs.40,000/- per hectare is provided for fallow land rice cultivation & Rs.10,000/- per hectare for cultivation of specialized rice varieties such as basmati etc. Group farming is being encouraged in paddy cultivation so as to reduce the cost of cultivation and for efficient management of risky situations. Assistance is also being given through Paddy Development Agencies constituted for supporting paddy farmers in specialized problematic rice growing tracts of Kuttanad. The State Government has constituted Kuttanad Vikasana Ekopana Council for promoting agriculture in Kuttanad and to integrate various developmental activities of Agriculture Department.

The yield based “Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana” (PMFBY) and weather based “Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme” (WBCIS), introduced by the Government of India, are also being implemented in Kerala.
