

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 233
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05TH DECEMBER, 2023

AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY IN BIHAR

233. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any scheme/plan to establish agriculture university in Gaya Parliamentary Constituency in the State of Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any scheme is being implemented by the Government to provide fair price to the farmers for their produce in the State of Bihar;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the details of drought affected districts of the State of Bihar and the schemes run for the farmers of these drought affected districts, district-wise?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): At present, there is no such proposal.

(c) & (d): Each year, the Government fixes Minimum Support Price (MSP) of 22 mandated agricultural crops viz paddy, jowar, bajra, maize, ragi, tur (arhar), moong, urad, groundnut, soyabean, sunflower, sesamum, nigerseed, cotton, wheat, barley, gram, masur(lentil), rapeseed/mustard, safflower, jute and copra on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce.

Moreover, Government in its Union Budget for 2018-19 had made an announcement to keep MSP at a level of one and half times of the cost of production as a pre-determined principle.

Government also implements an umbrella Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan' (PM-AASHA) to provide Minimum Support Price (MSP) to farmers for their produce of notified oilseeds, pulses & copra. PM-AASHA comprises Price Support Scheme (PSS), Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) and Private Procurement and Stockist Scheme (PPSS). Under this scheme, State Governments/UTs including Bihar are offered to choose either PSS or PDPS in a given procurement season with respect to particular oilseeds crop for the entire State. The pulses and copra are procured under PSS. Only one scheme i.e. PSS or PDPS is made operational in one State with respect to one commodity. Further, State Governments/UT have the option to roll out Private Procurement and Stockist Scheme (PPSS) on pilot basis in district / selected APMC(s) of district involving the participation of private stockist for oilseeds.

Besides, Government also implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities which are perishable in nature and for which MSP is not announced. The objective of intervention is to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of a bumper crop during the peak arrival period when the prices tend to fall below economic level / cost of production.

(e): The primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the State Governments. The State Governments provide financial relief to the affected people in the wake of notified disasters including Drought from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), already placed at their disposal. However, in the event of a disaster of a severe nature, additional financial assistance is extended from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), as per the laid down procedure, which includes an assessment based on the visit of an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT).

During the current year, the Government has not received any Memorandum for financial assistance from NDRF/ Bihar Government in the wake of drought, so far.
