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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.340TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH NOVEMBER, 2019

ASSISTANCE FOR CROP LOSS

340. SHRI SANJAY JADHAV: SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:

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

- (a) the details of the places in Maharashtra which were recently affected by rain and hailstorm in Marathwada area of Maharashtra;
- (b) whether crops have been damaged in these areas/places and whether any assessment has been made by the Union Government in this regard and if so, the details thereof including the number of farmers whose crops have been damaged, the details of the farmers who have been affected and the assessment of the losses:
- (c) whether any report has been received from the State in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Union Government has helped these farmers with funds/ subsidy and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government has compensated these rain affected farmers and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Union Government to improve the condition of the farmers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (e): During current year Government of Maharashtra has not submitted any memorandum seeking financial assistance from NDRF in the wake of hailstorm. Rain has not been notified as a natural calamity by the Government of India.

In the eventuality of notified natural calamities, the State Governments are empowered to initiate necessary relief measures from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), which is readily available with them. Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), on receipt of Memorandum from State Governments and in accordance with extant norms and procedures. State Governments may however use up to 10 per cent of the funds available under SDRF for providing immediate relief to the victims of natural disasters that they consider to be 'disasters' within the local context in the State and which are not included in the notified list of disasters of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and incur expenditure as per the SDRF/NDRF guidelines, issued by Government of India (Ministry of Home Affairs) on 08.04.2015.

Government of India has also released the Central Share of SDRF of Rs.1276.125 crore for Maharashtra during 2019-20. Further, Government has introduced yield based Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). Under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), claims are provided to insured farmers for notified crops against the shortfall in yield due to adverse climatic conditions as per the formula envisaged in operational guidelines of the scheme.

(f) The Government of India has evolved several schemes/programmes to improve the condition of farmers namely Soil Health Card (SHC), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), National Agriculture Market Scheme (e-NAM), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Pradhan Mantri KIsan SAmman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) etc.

Besides, Government of India has prepared crop contingency plan for 650 districts in the country to sustain agriculture production in the eventuality of any sudden change in weather. Based on the Crop Weather Watch Group Report advisories are being issued to the States/Union Territories for implementation of contingency plans. Besides, there is also a system to send weather based advisory to registered farmers by SMS through m-Kisan Portal.
