

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2054
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD MARCH, 2020

STUDY ON AGRARIAN CRISIS

2054. SHRIMATI CHINTA ANURADHA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study on the regions facing agrarian crisis in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to encourage the use of modern agricultural techniques to sustain growth of agriculture to solve the problem of agrarian crisis in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): Taking cognizance of the problem of Agrarian distress and consequent farmers suicide in the country, Government had undertaken a study "Farmers Suicide in India: Causes and Policy Prescription" as an all India coordinated study in the work plan 2016-17 through the Institute of Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru. The study covered 13 states of the country which included Karnataka, Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

The study concluded that frequent crop failure due to vagaries of monsoon, absence of assured water resources and attack of pest and diseases are the most important causes of farmers' distress. The study had made inter-alia following suggestions to address the above problems:

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- (a) Bringing individual farmers under the ambit of crop insurance;
- (b) Judicious use of available water is required;
- (c) Government intervention through MSP covering cost of production plus reasonable profit margin;
- (d) Risk hedging through crop and enterprise diversification should be encouraged to reduce farmers' distress aiming at sustainable income; and
- (e) Regulate informal credit market.

(c): The Government has taken various steps to promote the use of modern technology in agriculture sustainable growth in the agriculture sector. Some of the interventions in this direction are :

- (i) Creation of a network of 716 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) for dissemination of knowledge and information about modern technology etc.
- (ii) Initiatives under Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) Scheme like Extension Reforms, Mass Media Support to Agricultural Extension, Kisan Call Centres, Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres, Exhibitions/ Fairs etc.
- (iii) Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)
- (iv) Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi
- (v) National Agriculture e-Market platform (e-NAM) has been established
- (vi) Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme
- (vii) Per Drop More Crop (PDMC)
