

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.260**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2020

**PRADHAN MANTRI FASAL BIMA YOJANA**

260. SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER:

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

- (a) the salient features of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana;
- (b) whether there has been a substantial increase in the crop insurance penetration and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to decrease the disbursement time of claims to the farmers; and
- (d) the steps taken to enhance the use of technology in agriculture insurance?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a): The salient features of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) are annexed.
- (b): Yes Sir. Penetration under the PMFBY has been increased from 23% of Gross Cropped Area (GCA) under erstwhile schemes during 2015-16 to over 30% of GCA under PMFBY.
- (c): As per provisions of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) admissible claims are generally paid by the insurance companies within two months of completion of Crop Cutting Experiments/harvesting period subject to availability of yield data and total State share of premium subsidy from concerned State Government within time.

To bring down the claim settlement time, many steps in addition to regularly monitoring the implementation of PMFBY, has been taken by the Government. These steps include use of improved technology, revision of Operational Guidelines wherein provision has been made for timely release of State Govt. share in 3 instalments and settlement of claims by insurance companies without waiting for final/3<sup>rd</sup> installment by the States and advancement of 15 days in seasonality discipline for early settlement of claims. Penalty provisions for late settlement of claims by insurance companies and late release of funds by State Governments have also been stipulated under these guidelines.

(d): PMFBY provides for use of technology for better implementation of the scheme. Accordingly, National Crop Insurance Portal (NCIP) has been developed for ensuring better administration, co-ordination, transparency, dissemination of information and delivery of services including uploading/obtaining details of individual insured farmers for better monitoring and to ensure transfer of claim amount electronically to the individual farmer's Bank Account. To ensure timely payment of claims, scheme envisages mandatory use of smartphone/CCE-Agri App for real time transfer of data on national crop insurance portal. Farmers'app has also been launched, on which farmers can track their crop insurance and get all information about it.

Further, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, through Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC) had carried out pilot studies for Smart Sampling Technique/Optimization of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) in various States involving 8 agencies/ organizations during Kharif 2018 and Rabi 2018-19 under PMFBY. The review of these pilot studies was carried out by High Level Committee constituted for the purpose.

Accordingly, based on these results and the technologies which were verified during the Pilot studies, the Government rolled out Smart Sampling Technique (CCE location selection using satellite data) and optimization of CCEs, in 96 districts of 9 States, for rice crop, during Kharif, 2019. Around 1 lakh CCEs for Rice crop are conducted, during Kharif 2019, using Smart Sampling Technique.

Pilot studies have been undertaken for estimation of yield at Gram Panchayat level, during Kharif 2019, through 12 agencies, by use of technology (Satellite data, UAV, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, etc.). As soon as statistically sound methodology for yield estimation through technology is established for the crop, the same may be adopted.

**Salient Features of PMFBY**

- i) Provides comprehensive insurance coverage against crop loss on account of non-preventable natural risks, thus helping in stabilising the income of the farmers and encourage them for adoption of innovative practices.
- ii) Increased risk coverage of Crop cycle – pre-sowing to post-harvest losses.
- iii) Area approach for settlement of claims for widespread damage. Notified Insurance unit has been reduced to Village/Village Panchayat for major crops
- iv) Uniform maximum premium of only 2%, 1.5% and 5% to be paid by farmers for all Kharif crops, Rabi Crops and Commercial/ horticultural crops respectively.
- v) The difference between premium and the rate of Insurance charges payable by farmers is provided as subsidy and shared equally by the Centre and State.
- vi) Uniform seasonality discipline & Sum Insured for both loanee & non-loanee farmers
- vii) Removal of the provision of capping on premium which led to reduction in sum insured to facilitate farmers to get claim against full sum insured without any reduction.
- viii) Individual farm level assessment and settlement of claims for localized calamities of hailstorm, landslide, Inundation, Cloud Burst and Natural Fire and post harvest losses due to cyclone, cyclonic rain and hailstorm.
- ix) Provision of individual farm level assessment for Post harvest losses against the cyclonic & unseasonal rains and hailstorm for the crops kept in the field for drying upto a period of 14 days, throughout the country.
- x) Provision of claims upto 25% of sum insured for prevented sowing.
- xi) “On-Account payment” upto 25% of sum insured for mid season adversity, if the crop damage is reported more than 50% in the insurance unit. Remaining claims based on Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) data.
- xii) Use of Remote Sensing Technology, Smartphones & Drones for quick estimation of crop losses to ensure early settlement of claims.
- xiii) Crop Insurance Portal has been developed for ensuring better administration, co-ordination, transparency, dissemination of information and delivery of services including crediting the claim amount electronically to the individual farmer's Bank Account.
- xiv) Focused attention on increasing awareness about the schemes among all stakeholders and appropriate provisioning of resources for the same.

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