

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.152
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2ND FEBRUARY, 2021

COMPENSATION FOR CROP DAMAGE

152. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:

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

- (a) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to compensate farmers for the damage of their crops during lockdown in the wake of COVID-19 global pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): The Government has taken several steps to deal with situations arising due to natural calamities including current pandemic Covid-19. In order to make adequate fund available to the State Governments during COVID-19 pandemic, as a special dispensation, the 1st instalment of Rs. 11092.00 crore as Central Share of State Disaster Risk Management Fund (SDRMF) for the financial year 2020-21 was released to all the States on 03.04.2020 in advance. Moreover, as on 31.12.2020, central share amounting to Rs.19036.425 crores has been released from SDRMF by the Central Government. Further, an amount of Rs.4406.81 crore has been released to 10 States as additional financial assistance from NDRF for providing relief to the affected people.

The State Governments are competent to provide relief to the farmers affected due to 12 natural calamities from State Disaster Risk Management Fund (SDRMF) already provided at their disposal in terms of Government of India's items and norms. Further, in case of calamity of severe in nature and beyond the coping capacity of SDRMF, additional financial assistance is granted to the State Government concerned from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to provide relief to the affected people including farmers.

The State Governments are also competent to utilize Chief Ministers Distress relief Fund to provide immediate relief to the people including farmers in distress due to Natural calamities.

Besides, Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare ensures comprehensive risk cover for crops of farmers against all non-preventable natural risks from pre-sowing to post-harvest stage under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).

In order to ensure timely and smooth functioning of agriculture and allied sector activities during the lockdown period due to pandemic Covid-19, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India had issued comprehensive guidelines vide their letter No. 40-3/2020-DM-1(A) dated 15.04.2020 on the measures to be taken for containment of Covid-19. Besides, the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW) had issued the Standard Operations Procedures (SOPs) dated 18.04.2020 for farmers for their safety and keeping social distancing while undertaking farm related activities.
