

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3331
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 16TH MARCH, 2021

DATA COLLECTION FOR FARM INSURANCE

3331. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry received a conditional nod from DGCA for deployment of drone for remote sensing data collection in farming areas at Gram Panchayat level;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which this step will help assess accurate crop yield/loss at insurance unit for quick claims under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY); and
- (d) the extent to which Indian farmers are likely to benefit by this step of the Government?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) : Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) envisages use of technology in implementation of the scheme. As per provisions claims under the scheme are worked out on the basis of yield data furnished by the concerned State Government based on requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) for the notified crops at notified insurance unit level. This is a manual process and takes time due to which claims of farmers are sometime delayed. Accordingly, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare through Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC) is doing several pilots to develop technology driven approaches for direct yield estimation at Gram Panchayat level using different technologies for early yield estimation and timely settlement of claims. Presently pilot projects are also being undertaken by the 7 selected national/international agencies in 100 districts for paddy (rice) and wheat crops in Kharif 2020 and Rabi 2021. These agencies are using various sources of data/techniques like weather, remote sensing, soil moisture, hydrological data including images/data taken through drone to develop models to arrive at yield at Gram Panchayat level. For this purpose, DGCA has recently given nod for flying of drone to collect the data in 100 pilot districts for paddy (rice) and wheat crops.

On finalization/development of statistically sound and appropriate model, this will help farmers in the form of early yield estimation and timely claims settlement under PMFBY.
