

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 307
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH AUGUST, 2021

COMMITTEE ON DOUBLING FARMERS' INCOME

*307. SHRI S. MUNISWAMY:

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

- (a) whether the Committee on Doubling Farmers' Income which is also the implementing agency for its recommendations has come out with practical and noteworthy recommendations for doubling farmers' income;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government feels that the Committee on Doubling Farmers' Income should be awarded the status of a statutory body as a mark of recognition for the phenomenal work it has done and to further add inputs for the betterment of the farming community at large; and
- (d) if so, the action taken thereon?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 307 DUE FOR REPLY ON 10TH AUGUST, 2021.**

(a) & (b): The Government constituted an Inter-ministerial Committee in April, 2016 to examine issues relating to “Doubling of Farmers Income” and recommend strategies to achieve the same, The Committee submitted its final Report to the Government in September, 2018 containing the strategy for doubling of farmers’ income by the year 2022. After acceptance of the DFI Committee recommendations, the Government has constituted an ‘Empowered Body’ to review and monitor the progress.

The Committee on Doubling Farmers’ Income (DFI) recognizes agriculture as a value led enterprise and has indentified seven major sources of growth viz., (I) improvement in crop productivity; (II) improvement in livestock productivity; (III) resource use efficiency or savings in the cost of production; (IV) increase in the cropping intensity;(V) diversification towards high value crops; (VI) improvement in real prices received by farmers; and (VII) shift from farm to non-farm occupations.

The Government has adopted several developmental programmes, schemes, reforms and policies that focus on higher incomes for the farmers. All these policies & programmes are being supported by higher budgetary allocations, non-budgetary financial resources by way of creating Corpus Funds like Micro Irrigation Fund, as also in the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying to promote dairy and fishery sectors. There have been several reforms to unleash the potential and these include “The Farmers Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2020”; “The Farmers (Empowerment & Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act. 2020” and the schemes such as Promotion of 10,000 FPOs with necessary financial support under Atma Nirbhar Package

(Agriculture). Rs. One lakh crore Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) has been launched to provide medium to long term debt financing for investment in viable projects, Launch of PM-KISAN (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi) in 2019 -an income support scheme providing Rs. 6000 per year in 3 equal instalments etc. In the Budget Announcement 2021-22, allocation to Micro Irrigation Fund has been doubled to Rs 10,000 crore and Institutional Credit has been increased to Rs 16.50 lakh crore. A list of programmes/achievements is at **Annexure.**

(c): There is no need to constitute a statutory body as implementation is already monitored by Empowered Body.

(d): Does not arise.

ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Unprecedented enhancement in budget allocation

In the year 2013-14, the Budget allocation for Department of Agriculture was only Rs. 21933.50 crore. This has been increased by more than 5.5 times to Rs. 1,23017.57 crore in 2021-22.

2. Record food grains and horticulture production

Food grain production has increased from 265.05 million tonnes in 2013-14 to record 305.43 million tonnes in 2020-21 (Third advance estimate) which is the highest ever food grain production. Horticulture production has increased from 280.99 million tonnes in 2014-15 to 320.48 million tonnes in 2020-21 (2nd advance Estimate) which is the highest ever for Indian horticulture.

3. Fixing of MSP at one-and-a half times the cost of production –

- Government has increased the MSP for all mandated Kharif, Rabi and other commercial crops with a return of at least 50 per cent over all India weighted average cost of production from 2018-19.
- Government has recently announced MSPs for Kharif crops of year 2021-22 on 9th June 2021. The highest absolute increase in MSP over the previous year has been fixed for sesamum (Rs. 452 per quintal) followed by tur and urad (Rs. 300 per quintal each). In case of groundnut and nigerseed, there has been an increase of Rs 275 per quintal and Rs 235 per quintal respectively in comparison to last year. MSP of paddy has been increased by Rs. 72 per quintal in comparison to last year. The expected returns to farmers over their cost of production are estimated to be highest in case of bajra (85%) followed by urad (65%) and tur (62%). For rest of the crops, return to farmers over their cost of production is estimated to be at least 50%.

4. Income support to farmers through PM KISAN (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi)

Launch of PM-KISAN in 2019 -an income support scheme providing Rs. 6000 per year in 3 equal instalments. A total of Rs. 1.39 lakh crore has been released so far to 11.05 crore farmer families.

5. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)

PMFBY was launched in 2016 addressing problems of high premium rates for farmers and reduction in sum insured due to capping. In past 4 years of implementation – 23 crore farmer applicants enrolled and over 7.7 crore farmer applicants have received claims of over Rs. 94,584 Crore. During this period nearly ₹17,618 crore were paid by farmers as their share of premium. Thus, for every 100 rupees of premium paid by farmers, they have received Rs. 536 as claims.

6. Institutional credit for agriculture sector

- Increased from Rs. 7.3 lakh crore in 2013-14 with a target to reach Rs. 16.5 lakh crore in 2021-22.
- Benefit of concessional institutional credit through KCC at 4% interest per annum has also now been extended to Animal Husbandry and Fisheries farmers for meeting their short term working capital needs.
- A special drive has been undertaken since February 2020 to provide concessional credit to PM-KISAN beneficiaries through Kisan Credit Cards. Till date 228 lakh new KCC applications have been sanctioned with a sanctioned credit limit of Rs. 2,32,812 crore as part of the drive.

7. Providing Soil Health Cards to farmers

Soil Health Card Scheme was introduced in the year 2014-15 to optimize usage of nutrients. Soil health cards have been issued free of cost to nearly 11.97 crore farmers under a nationwide program.

8. Promotion of organic farming in the country

- Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) was initiated in 2015-16 to promote organic farming in the country. 30934 clusters have been formed and an area of 6.19 lakh ha has been covered benefitting 15.47 lakh farmers.
- Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North East Region (MOVCDNER) has been launched. 170 Farmer Producer Companies have been formed comprising of 138467 farmers and covering 130445 ha area.

9. Neem Coating of Urea

Neem Coated Urea has been introduced since 2015-16 to ensure long availability of nutrients in the soil by slow release of nitrogen. It has also helped in curtailing diversion of urea for non- agricultural activities.

10. Agri Infrastructure Fund (AIF)

Within a year of the launch of AIF, the scheme mobilized Rs.7700 Crore worth agriculture infrastructure in the country for more than 7300 projects. With the support of the scheme, various agriculture infrastructure was created and some of the infrastructure is at the final stage of completion. This infrastructure includes 3898 warehouses, 155 assaying units, 136 primary processing units, 135 sorting & grading units, 20 smart & precision agriculture projects and around 3000 other kind of post-harvest management projects and community farming assets.

11. Promotion of FPOs

Scheme for Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs launched with a total budgetary provision of Rs. 6865 Crore in February 2020. So far 713 FPOs already registered under New FPO scheme.

- 12. A National Bee and Honey Mission (NBHM)** has been launched in 2020 as part of the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. Rs.500 crore for the period 2020-2021 to 2022-2023 has been allocated for the sector.

13. Per Drop More Crop component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY-PDMC)

Per Drop More Crop component of Pradhanmantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY_PDMC) aims to increase water use efficiency at the farm level through Micro Irrigation technologies, i.e., drip and sprinkler irrigation systems. Under the scheme an area of 20.39 lakh hectare has been covered and about 16 lakh farmers were benefited under micro-irrigation during 2019-20 & 2020 – 21. An amount of Rs. 5262.20 crore has been provided to states as central assistance under PMKSY-PDMC during 2019-20 and 2020-21. For the year 2021-22, an amount of Rs. 4000.00 crore (B.E.) has been allocated for implementation of the scheme and an amount of Rs. 351.50 crore released to States so far.

14. Micro Irrigation Fund

A Micro Irrigation Fund of Rs 5000 crore has been placed with NABARD. In the Budget for 2021-22 the corpus of the fund has been increased to Rs.1000 crores. Projects worth Rs 3970.17 crore covering 12.83 lakh hectares have been approved.

15. Agricultural Mechanization

Agricultural mechanization is extremely vital to modernize agriculture and reduce drudgery of farming operations. During the period from 2014-15 to July 2021 an amount of Rs.5490.82 crore have been allocated for agricultural mechanization. 13,24,124 numbers of machines and equipments have been provided to farmers on subsidy. 15,390 custom hiring centers, 362 high-tech hubs and 14235 farm machinery banks have been established to make available agricultural machines and equipments to the farmers on rental basis.

16. National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme

- In 18 states and 03 UTs, 1000 markets have been integrated with the e-NAM Platform. Government has announced in the Budget 2021-22 to integrate another 1000 mandis with e-NAM.
- So far, more than 1.71 crore farmers as well as 1.72 lakh traders are registered on the platform. As on 27.07.2021, total volume of 4.55 crore metric tonnes with a total value of Rs. 1.40 lakh crore (as on 27.07.2021) trade has been recorded.

17. Creation of a Start-up Eco system in agriculture and allied sector

646 start-ups in the agriculture and allied sectors have been selected (till 31 March 2021) for funding of a sum of Rs. 69.92 crore in instalments and Rs. 33.94 crore have been released to respective KPs and RABIs for funding these start-ups. These start-ups were trained for two months at various agribusiness incubation centres i.e. Knowledge Partners (KPs) & RKVY-RAFTAAR (Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana – Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sectors Rejuvenation) Agribusiness Incubators (RABIs).
