

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2916
TO BE ANSWERED ON MARCH 21, 2022

COMPENSATION TO FARMERS

2916. SHRI MALOOK NAGAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any concrete policy to compensate the farmers for the loss of their crops, vegetables, fruits and milk due to COVID-19 and lockdown and also for inflation that is increasing day-by-day; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b) The Government has taken several measures to ensure smooth operations of agriculture and related activities and to counter inflation. These include an exemption to agriculture-related activities from lockdown, facilitation of direct marketing, opening up of new procurement centres, the introduction of Kisan Rail and Krishi Udaan for carrying perishable products, agro and dairy products, and extension of Kisan Credit Card to fishery and dairy sectors.

Further, the Government launched the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan in May 2020 to, inter alia, strengthen infrastructure of agriculture and allied sectors, support formalisation of micro food enterprises and ensure food and nutritional security through PM Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana.

Under the PM-KISAN, Rs. 1.82 lakh crore has been released so far to 11.74 crore farmers. In order to address problems faced by farmers on servicing of agriculture loans, a moratorium for a total period of six months up to August 31st, 2020 was also permitted.

The government has also undertaken several measures to keep inflation under control including a reduction in central excise duty on petrol and diesel; allocation of food grains at subsidized rates; procurement and maintenance of buffer stock of pulses; reduction in duty on edible oils and price stabilization measures under Operations Greens.
