

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5303
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5TH APRIL, 2022

CROPS DAMAGED DUE TO RAIN AND FLOODS

5303. SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that heavy rains and floods in four districts of Andhra Pradesh have damaged agricultural crops spread over eight lakh hectares with crop loss estimated around Rs. 3,000 crore;
- (b) if so, whether any compensation and financial assistance has been provided for the same to the State;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to change cropping patterns which will help mitigate changes in climate across the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): The Primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the State Governments. The State Governments undertake assessment of damages and provide financial relief in the wake of 12 notified natural disasters, from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), already placed at their disposal. Additional financial assistance is extended from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) as per the established procedure in case of disaster of severe nature, which includes a visit of the affected areas by the Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT). Assistance approved under SDRF/NDRF is in the form of relief.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh sought an additional financial assistance of Rs.1080.71 crore (including Rs.555.19 crore for agricultural input subsidy) from NDRF for the damages caused by heavy rains and flood in the State in 2021. Based on the report of the IMCT and the recommendations of the Sub-Committee of National Executive Committee (SC-NEC), the High Level Committee approved financial assistance of Rs.351.43 crore (including Rs.201.90 crore for agricultural input subsidy) from NDRF to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, which has since been released.

Further, to provide financial support and claims against the crop yield losses due to natural risks/calamities, adverse weather conditions, pests & diseases etc., crop insurance schemes namely, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) are being implemented by the Government. Both the schemes are voluntary for States and farmers. All the farmers growing the crops/areas notified by the concerned State Government are eligible for coverage by paying their share of premium and get claims on loss of crop as per provisions of the respective schemes. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh is not implementing the PMFBY since Rabi 2019-20 Season in the State.

(d): To meet the challenges of sustaining domestic food production in the face of changing climate, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare launched a flagship network project 'National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture' (NICRA) in 2011. The project aims to develop and promote climate resilient technologies that help the districts and regions prone to extreme weather conditions like droughts, floods, frost, heat waves, etc., to cope up with such extremes. Promising resilient technologies towards change in cropping pattern have been demonstrated on large scale in the farmers' fields. Some of these cropping patterns change technologies are:

- Resilient varieties in different crops tolerant to climatic stresses
- Resilient intercropping systems
- Crop diversification from paddy to other alternate crops like pulses, oilseeds
- Agroforestry systems
- Zero till drill sowing of wheat to escape terminal heat stress
- Alternate methods of rice cultivation like system of rice intensification, aerobic rice, direct seeded rice
- Green manuring
- Integrated farming systems

Further, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is implementing the Crop Diversification Programme (CDP) in the Original Green Revolution States i.e. Haryana, Punjab & Uttar Pradesh (western part) since 2013-14 to divert the area of water intensive paddy crop to alternative crops like pulses, oilseeds, coarse cereals, nutri cereals, cotton etc.
