

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5462
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 05TH APRIL, 2022

UN REPORT ON FARMERS

5462. SHRI E.T. MOHAMMED BASHEER :

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

(a) whether it is true that United Nations (UN) report says that India is a rare country that has been penalising its farmers instead of supporting them like most countries and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of the measures which the Government has taken or wishes to take to protect the farmers in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) No such report by the UN has come to the attention of this Ministry.

(b) The Government has launched several developmental programmes, schemes, reforms and policies to protect the farmers in the country. Details of these are enclosed at Annexure I.

List of various interventions and schemes launched for the benefit of farmers

- (i) **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)-** Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is a Central Sector Scheme being implemented since 1st December, 2018. The Scheme aims at providing financial assistance to eligible landholding farmer families across the country, subject to certain exclusion criteria, to enable them to take care of expenses related to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs. Under the Scheme, an amount of Rs. 6000/- per year is transferred in three 4-monthly installments of Rs.2000/- directly into the bank accounts of the farmers through DBT. Under the PM-KISAN Scheme, so far, funds amounting to more than 1.82 lakh crores have been disbursed to more than 11.30 crore eligible farmer families in various installments
- (ii) **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana (PM-KMY)-** Pradhan Mantri Kisan MaanDhanYojna (PMKMY) is a Central Sector Scheme being implemented in order to provide social security net for the Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF) by way of pension, as they have minimal or no savings to sustain their livelihood during their old age and to support them in the event of consequent loss of livelihood. Under this scheme, a minimum fixed pension of Rs. 3,000/- will be provided to the eligible small and marginal farmers, subject to certain exclusion clauses, on attaining the age of 60 years. A total of 22,57,573 beneficiaries have registered/enrolled under the Scheme.
- (iii) **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)-** With a view to provide better insurance coverage to crops for risk mitigation, a crop insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) was launched from Kharif 2016 season. This scheme provides insurance cover for all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances, with low premium contribution by farmers. In past 5 Years of implementation – 29.32 crore farmers applicants enrolled and over 9.47 crore (Provisional) farmer applicants have received claims of over Rs. 1110666 crore.
- (iv) **Minimum Support Price (MSPs)-** Giving a major boost for the farmers' income, the Government has approved the increase in the Minimum Support Price (MSPs) for all Kharif & Rabi crops. 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. MSP for Paddy has increased to Rs. 1940 per quintal in 2021-22 from Rs. 1310 per

quintal in 2013-14. MSP for Wheat increased from Rs. 1400 per quintal in 2013-14 to Rs. 2015 per quintal in 2021-22.

- (v) **Soil Health Management & Soil Health Card (SHC)** sub-schemes are being implemented under National Project on Management of Soil Health & Fertility. National Project on Soil Health and Fertility is a continuing scheme with aim to promote soil test based Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) through conjunctive use of chemical fertilizers, organic fertilizers and bio-fertilizers. The following number of cards have been issued to farmers. In Cycle-I (2015 to 2017), 10.74 crore grid based soil health cards have been distributed to farmers. In Cycle-II (2017 to 2019), 11.97 crore grid based soil health cards have been distributed to farmers. In Model Village Programme (2019-20), 19.64 lakh land holding based soil health cards have been distributed to farmers across the country.
- (vi) **“Per drop more crop”** initiative under which drip/sprinkler irrigation is being encouraged for optimal utilization of water, reducing cost of inputs and increasing productivity. 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 62.4 lakh hectare has been covered and about 57.3 lakh farmers were benefitted under micro irrigation from the year 2015-16 to 2021-22 (till date).
- (vii) **Micro Irrigation Fund-** A Micro Irrigation Fund of Rs 5000 crore has been created with NABARD. In the Budget for 2021-22, the corpus of the fund has been increased to Rs. 10000 crores. Projects worth Rs 3970.17 crore covering 12.83 lakh hectares have been approved.
- (viii) **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)-** 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. Government also proposes to promote sustainable natural farming systems through the scheme Bhartiya Prakratik Krishi Padhati (BPKP). The proposed scheme aims at cutting down cost of cultivation, enhancing farmer's income and ensuring resource conservation and, safe and healthy soils, environment and food. Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North East Region (MOVCDNER) has been launched. 170 Farmer Producer Companies have been formed comprising of 153116 farmers and covering 155495 ha area. Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North East Region (MOVCDNER) has been launched. 170 Farmer Producer Companies have been formed comprising of 153116 farmers and covering 155495 ha area.

(ix) **National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme-** Launch of e-NAM initiative to provide farmers with transparent and competitive online trading platform. In 18 states and 03 UTs, 1000 mandis have already been integrated with the E-NAM Platform.

(x) **Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PMAASHA)-** Giving a major boost to the pro-farmer initiatives, the Government has approved a new Umbrella Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PMAASHA)'. The Scheme is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for the produce as announced in the Union Budget for 2018. This is an unprecedented step taken by Govt. of India to protect the farmers' income which is expected to go a long way towards the welfare of farmers.

(xi) **Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM) -**

Bee keeping has been promoted under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) to increase the productivity of crops through pollination and increase the honey production as an additional source of income of farmers. A National Beekeeping & 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 beekeeping sector. 70 projects for assistance of about Rs. 118.00 crores, approved/ sanctioned for funding under NBHM during 2020-21 & 2021-22 till date.

(xii) **MIDH - Cluster Development Programme -**

The Cluster Development Programme (CDP) is designed to leverage geographical specialisation of horticulture clusters and promote integrated and market-led development of pre-production, production, post-harvest, logistics, branding, and marketing activities. MoA&FW has identified 55 horticulture clusters, of which 12 have been selected for the pilot phase of the CDP. On the recommendation of State Government, Cluster Development Agencies have been appointed for all the clusters.

(xiii) **Institutional Credit for Agriculture-** To ensure flow of adequate credit, Government sets annual target for the flow of credit to the 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

(xiv) **Interest Subvention Scheme-** Extending the reach of institutional credit to more and more farmers is priority area of the Government and to achieve this

goal, the Government provides interest subvention of 2% on short-term crop loans up to Rs. 3.00 lakh. Presently, loan is available to farmers at an interest rate of 4% per annum on prompt repayment.

- (xv) **Kisan Credit Card (KCC)**- The Government has extended the facility of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to the farmers practicing animal husbandry and fisheries related activities. All processing fee, inspection, ledger folio charges and all other services charges have been waived off for fresh renewal of KCC.
- (xvi) **Farmers' Producer Companies (FPOs)**- A new Central Sector Scheme for Formation & Promotion of new 10,000 FPOs launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 29th February, 2020 with budget outlay of Rs 6865 Crore till 2027-28. So far, 2257 FPOs already registered under new FPO scheme.

(xvii) **Promotion of Agri Start up -**

646 start-ups in the agriculture and allied sectors have been selected 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 Agribusiness Incubators (RABIs).

(xviii) **Promoting Use of Drones in Agriculture -**

The adoption of Drone technologies in agriculture have a potential to revolutionize the Indian agriculture and ensure country's food security. Accordingly, looking into the unique advantages of Drone technologies in agriculture, the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has released the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for use of drones in pesticide and nutrient application in public domain 21.12.2021, which provide concise instructions for effective and safe operations of drones. In order to make this technology affordable to the farmers and other stakeholders of this sector, financial assistance @ 100 % cost of drone together with the contingent expenditure is extended to ICAR/SAU/ State governments/ State government Institutions under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) for its demonstration on the farmer's fields. In order to provide agricultural services through drone application, financial assistance @ 40% of the basic cost of drone and its attachments or Rs.4 lakhs, whichever less is also provided for drone purchase by existing and new Custom Hiring Centers (CHCs) under Cooperative Society of Farmers, FPOs and Rural entrepreneurs. The agriculture graduates establishing CHCs are eligible to receive financial assistance @ 50% or up to Rs.5 lakhs.

- (xix) **Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)** - Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) is being implemented w.e.f April, 2014 through States/UTS Governments. The scheme aims at 'reaching the unreached' by bringing to the small and marginal farmers in the core and giving the benefits of farm mechanization, by Promoting 'Custom Hiring Centers' ,

creating hubs for hi-tech & high value farm equipments, distribution of various agricultural equipments, creating awareness among stakeholders through demonstration and capacity building activities, and ensuring performance testing and certification at designated testing centers located all over the country.

(xx) **Crop Residue Management (CRM) Scheme-** A special Scheme to support the efforts of the Governments of Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and the NCT of Delhi to address air pollution due to stubble burning and to subsidize machinery for the farmers for in-situ management of crop residue, a new Central Sector Scheme on 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi (CRM) has been introduced wef 2018-19.

(xxi) **Sub-Mission on Seeds & Planting Materials (SMSP)-**Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is implementing Sub-Mission on Seeds & Planting Materials (SMSP) from the year 2014-15 to promote production and multiplication of quality seeds of agricultural crops, so that the required quantities of seeds could be made available to farmers in the country. The financial assistance is available /provided for distribution of foundation/ certified seeds at 50% subsidy for cereal crops and 60% subsidy for pulses, oilseeds, fodder and green manure crops, Creation of Seed Infrastructure facilities (seeds processing and storage godowns of various types), National Seed Reserve (to meet requirement of seeds of short & medium duration crop varieties to the farmers during natural calamities and unforeseen conditions) and Strengthening of Seeds Quality Control (seed testing including DNA finger Printing facilities for testing of genetic purity etc.) to the States and public sector Seed organizations through various schemes/components of SMSP.

(xxii) **Launch of the National Mission for Edible Oils – Oil Palm -** NMEO has been approved with a total outlay of Rs 11040 crore. This will bring additional area of 6.5 lakh ha under Oil Palm plantation with 3.28 lakh ha in north-eastern states and 3.22 in Rest of India in next 5 years. The major focus of the Mission is to provide Viability Prices of FFBs to the farmers linked with assured procurement by the industry with simple price fixing formula. Central Government will compensate farmers through viability gap payment if price paid by industry is below viability price up to October, 2037.

(xxiii) **Agri Infrastructure Fund -**

Since the inception of AIF, the scheme mobilized Rs.13000+ Crore worth agriculture infrastructure in the country for more than 18000+ projects. With the support of the scheme, various agriculture infrastructure was created and some of the infrastructure is at the final stage of completion. These infrastructures include 5515 warehouses, 842 custom hiring centers, 156 assaying units, 960

primary processing units, 449 sorting & grading units, 354 cold store projects and around 2406 other kinds of post-harvest management projects and community farming assets.
