

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3608

TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH DECEMBER, 2024

INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT FARMERS

3608. DR. D. RAVI KUMAR:

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

- (a) the details of measures taken to reduce market volatility and provide farmers with effective market linkages and real-time price information to protect them from price exploitation;
- (b) the manner in which the Government addressing the impacts of climate change and natural disasters on agriculture, and the details of the support systems in place to mitigate crop losses and livestock mortality;
- (c) the details of initiatives which are being implemented to improve farmers' access to agricultural extension services, modern technologies and scientific research tailored to their specific needs;
- (d) the details of the Government plans to enhance farmers' involvement in policy-making processes to ensure that policies are more responsive to their challenges and needs; and
- (e) the details of the programs which are in place to provide training, knowledge dissemination and affordable technology solutions to help farmers adopt innovative and sustainable agricultural practices?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): The government implements various schemes to strengthen the agricultural supply chain, create alternative marketing channels, and mitigate market volatility to ensure remunerative prices to farmers. These measures include the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), the Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) scheme, direct market access through Open Network for Digital Commerce, the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), the Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM), and price support under the Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA).

Marketing Research and Information Network (MRIN), a sub-scheme of ISAM, provides daily updates on agricultural commodity prices and arrivals. The scheme covers 3,771 market yards, tracking over 300 commodities. The information is disseminated through digital platforms such as the Agmarknet portal, e-NAM portal, Kisan Suvidha, etc.

(b): National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) evolves and implements strategies to make agriculture resilient to the changing climate. Under NMSA, Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme improves water use efficiency through micro-irrigation technologies, and Rainfed Area Development (RAD) scheme focuses on Integrated Farming Systems (IFS) to increase productivity and reduce risks of climate variability. The Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and the Agroforestry & National Bamboo Mission also work to enhance climate resilience.

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) along with weather index based Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) provide a comprehensive insurance cover against crop failure. These schemes provide financial support to farmers affected by crop loss or damage due to natural calamities.

(c) to (e): The Centrally Sponsored Scheme “Support to State Extension Programs for Extension Reforms” implemented across 739 districts in 28 states and 5 Union Territories. The scheme provides decentralised farmer-friendly extension through different activities like farmers training, demonstrations, exposure visits, etc. Indian Council of Agricultural Research through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) disseminates latest technologies in agriculture and allied sectors, among the farmers. KVK also support on farm training & location specific technology & farming systems.

The Government engages with farmers and other stakeholders in the agricultural policy formulation from time to time.
