

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 346
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25TH MARCH, 2025

BENEFITS OF CROP INSURANCE SCHEME FOR TOMATO FARMERS

*346. SHRI MANISH JAISWAL:

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

- (a) the manner in which tomato farmers are likely to be benefitted from the crop insurance scheme along with the details thereof;
- (b) whether any arrangements have been made by the Government for the export of tomatoes from Jharkhand; and
- (c) If so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO PART (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 346 FOR 25TH MARCH, 2025 REGARDING BENEFITS OF CROP INSURANCE SCHEME FOR TOMATO FARMERS.

(a): The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) envisages coverage of all food crops (cereals, millets and pulses), oilseeds and commercial/horticultural crops subject to availability of past yield data of requisite number of years based on Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) as well as capacity of the State Government to conduct requisite number of CCEs to assess the yield of the crop to calculate claims. However, specific crop is notified by the concerned State Government keeping in view the aforesaid provision.

For the crops not meeting the aforesaid conditions, the concerned State Government is free to notify them for coverage under Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) under which claims payment are being structured on the basis of weather index parameters.

State Governments of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Karnataka, Tripura and Tamil Nadu are notifying the tomato crop under PMFBY for the benefit of tomato growing farmers of their States. On the other hand, State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand are notifying tomato crop under RWBCIS.

The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) implemented since 2016 is voluntary for States/Union Territories (UTs) as well as for farmers. Since inception of the scheme, 27 states/UTs implemented PMFBY in one or more reasons. The State of Jharkhand implemented the scheme since inception till Kharif 2020. Since then, the state has discontinued the scheme. However, due to the efforts made by the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, the State of Jharkhand has re-entered the PMFBY from Kharif 2024. As State Government has re-joined the PMFBY recently, only major crops have been notified by the State.

(b) & (c): The Department of Commerce through the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides financial assistance to its member exporters including those based in Jharkhand, for export promotion of its scheduled products, including tomatoes, through its Financial Assistance Scheme. The Scheme has the following components:

(i) Development of Export Infrastructure : APEDA recognizes the importance of infrastructure for growth of agro-industries and export of agricultural products in the value chain. The scheme component covers both fresh produce and processed food products. The objective of the scheme is to reduce losses caused due to spoilage and to ensure quality production of agro products. To achieve this, it seeks to set up post-harvest handling facilities. Under this component, assistance is provided for the following:

- Infrastructure such as pack house facilities with packing/grading lines
- Pre- cooling units with cold storages and refrigerated transportation etc.
- Cable system for handling of crops like banana
- Common infrastructure facilities

- Pre-shipment treatment facilities such as irradiation, Vapour Heat Treatment, Hot Water Dip Treatment for compliance to Phyto-Sanitary requirements of importing countries
- Infrastructure for processing facilities (process food sector) for addressing missing gaps which may include equipment like X-ray, Screening, Sortex, filth / metal detector, sensors, vibrators or any new equipment or technology for food safety and quality requirements.

(ii) Quality Development : To participate/engage in international trade, it is necessary to comply with Food Safety requirements of different countries. Several importing countries demand adherence to stringent Maximum Residue Levels. Some of the developed importing countries have set up Maximum Residue Levels at very low level. For this, high precision equipments are required to be installed by the food testing labs. Under this component, assistance is provided to comply with the prescribed standards of importing countries. Assistance under this component covers the following:

- Installation of quality management systems,
- Laboratory testing equipment,
- Hand held devices for capturing farm level peripheral coordinates for traceability systems and testing of samples etc.
- Testing of water, soil, residues or pesticides, veterinary drugs, hormones, toxins, heavy metal, contaminants etc.

(iii) Market Development : This component helps exporters to achieve market access in new markets and help sustain their presence in the existing markets. It covers structured marketing strategies for export of food products, market intelligence for taking informed decisions, international exposure, skill development, capacity building and high quality packaging. The assistance under this component covers the following:

- Participation in International trade fairs
- Exchange of trade delegations
- Organizing buyer seller meets
- Developing packaging standards for new products and upgrading the existing standards , international exposure, skill development, capacity building and high quality packaging.

During the year 2024-25, APEDA organized 11 export-oriented training and capacity building programmes for farmers and other stakeholders in Jharkhand focusing on potential agricultural products of the State.
