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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 348

TO BE ANSWERED ON 04TH FEBRUARY, 2025

TRANSPARENCY OF FUND DISBURSAL UNDER PM-KISAN SAMMAN NIDHI SCHEME

348. SHRI ARUN BHARTI:

Will the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which the PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi has leveraged technology to streamline beneficiary identification and ensure transparency in fund disbursal;
- (b) the measures that have been introduced to integrate PM-Kisan with other welfare schemes like crop insurance or soil health initiatives, enhancing its holistic impact on farmers' welfare;
- (c) the manner in which the scheme addresses challenges faced by tenant farmers or those without formal land records:
- (d) the manner in which the PM-Kisan has influenced rural consumption patterns, especially in terms of investments in agricultural inputs or basic necessities; and
- (e) the steps taken to incorporate feedback from beneficiaries to improve the scheme's reach and efficiency over successive repetitions?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): The PM-KISAN scheme is a central sector scheme launched in February 2019 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to supplement the financial needs of land-holding farmers. Under the scheme, a financial benefit of Rs 6,000/- per year is transferred in three equal installments into the Aadhaar seeded bank accounts of farmers through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.

A farmer-centric digital infrastructure ensures that the benefits of the scheme reach all the farmers across the country without involvement of any intermediaries. The beneficiary data under the scheme is verified by leveraging digital public infrastructures and advanced validation mechanisms. Aadhaar authentication serves as a key tool to establish the identity of beneficiaries, while cross-verifications with Income Tax records and the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) ensure compliance with eligibility criteria. Further, to ensure that the benefits are provided only to the eligible beneficiaries, land record seeding, Aadhaar seeding with bank accounts, and e-KYC have been made mandatory under the Scheme. In addition to the digital validations, all States and Union Territories conduct intensive physical verification drives to ascertain adherence to the eligibility conditions stipulated under the Scheme. This comprehensive approach combines technological advancements with manual checks to ensure transparency, accuracy, and efficiency in the delivery of benefits.

Maintaining absolute transparency in registering and verifying beneficiaries, the Government of India has disbursed over Rs. 3.46 lakh crore in 18 installments since the scheme's inception. The PM-Kisan Scheme is applicable only to cultivable landholding farmers.

- (d): An independent study conducted by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in 2019. According to the study, funds disbursed under the PM-KISAN have acted as a catalyst in rural economic growth, aided in alleviating the credit constraints of farmers, and increased investments in agricultural inputs. Further, the scheme has enhanced farmers' risk-taking capacity, leading them to undertake riskier but comparatively productive investments. The funds received by recipients under PM-KISAN are not only helping them with their agricultural needs, but it is also catering to their other expenses such as education, medical, marriage, etc. These are the indicators of the positive impact of the scheme on the farmers of the country. PM KISAN has truly been a game changer for the farming community of our country.
- (e): The Government is committed to continuous improvement and ensuring the scheme's effectiveness. Under various initiatives, a comprehensive feedback mechanism has been implemented. In this regard, the services of the Kisan Call Centres (KCC), is also utilized to gather the feedback of the scheme through nationwide telephonic surveys. The findings from these surveys help the Department in further improving the implementation of the scheme.
