

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3936
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH MARCH, 2025

MEASURES TO INCREASE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

3936. SHRI PARBHUBHAI NAGARBHAI VASAVA:
SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT:
SHRI JUGAL KISHORE:
SHRI ANOOP PRADHAN VALMIKI:

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

(a) the details of the measures taken by the Government to increase agricultural productivity and ensure sustainability in rural and marginalized communities;

(b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to integrate climate resilience into rural development policies;

(c) the measures being taken to ensure that the benefits of rural development initiatives effectively reach the most vulnerable sections of society particularly women, small farmers and indigenous communities;

(d) the manner in which PM-Kisan Yojana, NFSA and other Government schemes are being reviewed to ensure food security in Hathras as the effective implementation of schemes is essential for the empowerment of farmers and vulnerable communities;

(e) the names of insurance schemes implemented to compensate farmers for crop damage due to climate change; and

(f) the steps taken to provide the benefits of the said schemes to the farmers?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) & (b): In order to increase the agricultural productivity, Government of India is implementing the National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) in 28 States and 2 Union Territories (UTs) viz. Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. The objective of NFSNM is to increase production of foodgrains through area expansion and productivity enhancement. Under this scheme, the incentives are provided to the farmers, through the States/UTs, on crop production and protection technologies, cropping system-based demonstrations, distribution of certified seeds of newly released varieties/hybrids, integrated nutrient and pest

management techniques, improved farm implements/tools/resource conservation machineries, water saving devices, capacity building of farmers through trainings during cropping season, etc.

The Government has set up National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) in 2008, which provide an overarching policy framework for climate action in the country. The NAPCC outlines a national strategy to enable the country to adapt to climate change and enhance ecological sustainability. One of the National Missions under NAPCC is the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) which evolves and implements strategies to make agriculture more resilient to the changing climate.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has launched a flagship network project namely National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA). The project conducts studies on the impact of climate change on agriculture including crops, livestock, horticulture and fisheries and also develops and promotes climate resilient technologies in agriculture for vulnerable areas of the country. The outputs of the project help the regions to cope with extreme weather conditions like droughts, floods, frost, heat waves, etc. During last 10 years (2014-2024), a total of 2593 varieties have been released by ICAR, out of these 2177 varieties have been found tolerant to one or more biotic and/or abiotic stresses. For enhancing the resilience and adaptive capacity of farmers to climate variability, the Concept of "Climate Resilient Villages" (CRVs) has been initiated under NICRA. Location-specific climate resilient technologies have been demonstrated in 448 CRVs of 151 climatically vulnerable districts covering 28 states/UTs for adoption by farmers. ICAR through its NICRA project, creates awareness about impact of climate change in agriculture among farmers. Capacity building programmes are being conducted to educate the farmers on various aspects of climate change for wider adoption of climate resilient technologies.

Further, the Government of India also advises the States and seed producing agencies from time to time to place the breeder seeds indents of newly released High Yielding Varieties (HYVs), stress tolerant varieties (drought, flood and salinity) including stress tolerant/ climate resilient /smart varieties (to tackle the challenges of climate changes more effective way) of different crops developed by ICAR Institutes /State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) etc. for further multiplication into foundation and certified seeds, so as to make available required seeds of these crops varieties to the farmers to enhance agricultural production, productivity and also to help farmers' profitability in the country. Further, Sub-Mission on Seeds & Planting Materials (SMSP) is implemented from the year 2014-15 onwards 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. SMSP has now been merged with NFSNM during the year 2023-24.

(c) & (d): Under the National Food Security Act 2013, Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households, which constitute poorest of the poor are entitled to 35 kg of foodgrains, per family per month, Priority Households (PHH) are entitled to 5 kg of foodgrains per person per month, free of cost. The Act provides that the State Government shall, within the ceiling of beneficiaries determined for the State, identify the households to be covered under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana to the extent specified by the Central Government, in accordance with the guidelines applicable to the said scheme and the remaining households as priority households to be covered under the Targeted Public Distribution System, in accordance with such guidelines evolved by the State Government itself.

Further, Government is implementing various schemes / measures to enable Rural development, benefitting the most vulnerable sections of society including women, small farmers and indigenous communities. The list of the schemes is given as under:

- (i) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)
- (ii) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)
- (iii) Samagra Shiksha
- (iv) Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY)
- (v) Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETI)
- (vi) Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)
- (vii) Jan Sikhshan Sansthan (JSS)
- (viii) National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS)
- (ix) Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS)
- (x) National Health Mission (NHM)
- (xi) National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)

(e) & (f): Government of India implements yield-based Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and weather index based Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) from Kharif 2016 to provide financial support to the insured farmers suffering crop loss/damage arising out of natural calamities & adverse weather incidence such as flood, drought hailstorm, landslide, inundation, cloud burst & natural fire. The post-harvest losses for a specified period of 15 days are also covered under this scheme. To increase the efficiency of the scheme implementation and penetration, various initiatives has been deployed, which are given as under:

(i) Digi-Claim-Payment Module –The module aims at integrating NCIP with PFMS end to end. Now Govt. will have visibility of quantum of eligible claims, claims paid by the Insurance Company and actual claims transferred to beneficiary farmers, which till now was missing and Govt. always had dependence for these reports and data on Insurance Company.

(ii) AIDE (App for Intermediary Enrolment): A smart-phone App has been designed and rolled out in Kharif 2023 for enrolment of farmers at their door-steps through a large network of Insurance Intermediaries. It offers a completely paper-less and cash-less experience to a farmer.

(iii) Krishi Rakshak Portal & Helpline: A pan-India single number integrated grievance redressal mechanism having digital portal and a call centre has been developed to enable farmers to lodge their grievances/concerns/queries.
