

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5174
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24TH MARCH, 2026

ENHANCEMENT IN AGRICULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

5174. DR. M P ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS' WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of fluctuations in agriculture caused by climate change;
- (b) the plans to include more crops in the Minimum Support Price (MSP) system announced for major crops;
- (c) the details of steps taken to reduce delays in settling insurance claims for farmers,
- (d) the details of steps taken to extend the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana scheme to more gram panchayats; and
- (e) the details of steps taken by the Government to improve water storage facilities for the agricultural sector in rural areas?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): Climate change and extreme weather events leads to both biotic and abiotic stress on crops, leading to fluctuations in agricultural production in some crops in some years. However, due to various climate adaptation measures and schemes undertaken by the Government, the country's food grain production has shown a steady increase over the past ten years as below:

Total Food Grain Production in the Country

Year	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Total (Lakh tonnes)	2515.42	2751.10	2850.14	2852.09	2975.04	3107.42	3156.16	3296.87	3322.98	3577.32

(b): Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for 22 mandated agricultural crops based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, after considering the views of State Governments and concerned Ministries/Departments. While recommending MSPs, the Commission takes into account factors such as cost of production, demand-supply conditions, domestic and international prices, inter-crop price parity, and a minimum margin of 50 percent over the cost of production. The inclusion of crops under the MSP framework depends on various considerations, including their shelf life, extent of cultivation, role as items of mass consumption, and importance for food security.

(c): Several steps have been taken by the Government to reduce delays in the settlement of insurance claims under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana and to ensure timely and transparent disbursement to farmers. A centralized digital platform, namely the National Crop Insurance Portal, has been developed for end-to-end management of the scheme, including farmer enrolment, data management, and direct transfer of claims into farmers' bank accounts. A dedicated 'Digiclim Module', integrated with the Public Finance Management System, has been operationalized to monitor and expedite claim processing, with provisions for automatic calculation and levy of penalties for delays by insurance companies. Further, the Central share of premium subsidy has been delinked from that of States to enable proportionate claim settlement, and States have been mandated to deposit their share in advance through Escrow Accounts. Technological interventions such as the use of the CCE-Agri App for crop cutting data, integration of land records, and tranche-based claim settlement have also been introduced to improve efficiency and ensure timely settlement of claims.

(d) & (e): The Government is also implementing Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) since 2015-16 to enhance access to irrigation and improve water use efficiency at the farm level. Under PMKSY, the 'Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP)' component is being implemented to expand irrigation coverage, including in rural areas and Gram Panchayats, through creation and restoration of irrigation infrastructure. The schemes of Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI) and Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies have been subsumed under PMKSY-HKKP and are being implemented across States with Central Assistance provided to support such projects. The scheme supports creation of irrigation potential and promotes equitable distribution of water, thereby facilitating wider coverage.
