

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 618

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 03RD FEBRUARY, 2026

FERTILISER SHORTAGE IN KERALA

618. SHRI K C VENUGOPAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the severe fertiliser shortage, particularly urea, potash, and phosphate, affecting Kuttanad and other regions in Alappuzha district during the 2025-26 season, leading to potential crop losses for farmers, if so, the reasons for the shortage;
- (b) whether the Ministry has assessed the impact of climate change on Kerala's agriculture, including losses from landslides, floods, and monsoons, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of Minimum Support Price (MSP) revisions for Kharif crops in 2025-26, including delays in MSP payments to Kerala farmers, and measures to ensure timely disbursement revised support schemes for coconut farmers; and
- (d) the steps being taken to address paddy seed shortages ahead of the planting season, including quality concerns raised from the farmers ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

- (a): State Government of Kerala has informed that fertilizer shortage particularly Urea, Murate of Potash, Phosphatic fertilizers has not been reported during 2025-26 from Alappuzha district including Kuttanaad and other regions because requirement of fertilizers was planned in advance and timely fertilizer availability was ensured. Hence, crop loss due to shortage of fertilizers has also not been reported.

(b): Independent study report regarding landslide that affected the parts of Wayanad and Kozhikode districts during July 2024, has been submitted in the Legislative Assembly of Kerala by Environment Committee consisting of Hon'ble Members of Legislative Assembly. The details of crop loss as informed by State Government due to climate change on Kerala Agriculture (01/04/2021 to 28/01/2026) is shown below:

Particulars	Number of farmers affected	Crop loss (Rs)
Landslides	1443	23967727
Floods	14641	148971006
Heavy rain	20791	138897792
Cyclones	7963	75306142
Heavy wind	4594	43432133

(c): The Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for Kharif crops for the agricultural season 2025-26, as announced by the Government of India, have been adopted by the Government of Kerala and implemented through the State's procurement mechanism. In Kerala, procurement of paddy at MSP is carried out through State-designated agency namely Supplyco in coordination with the Food Corporation of India (FCI), as per prescribed guidelines. At present, paddy is procured at the Minimum Support Price of ₹2,300 per quintal for Common variety and ₹2,320 per quintal for Grade 'A' variety, along with a State Incentive Bonus of ₹630 per quintal, ensuring a total procurement price of ₹3,000 per quintal to farmers. Delay in disbursement of paddy procurement payments to farmers has been reported in certain instances during recent seasons, arising from procedural and operational constraints within the existing procurement framework. In addition, settlement of liabilities carried over under the Paddy Receipt Sheet (PRS) loan mechanism from earlier seasons has required reconciliation, which has had an impact on the timing of payments in some cases. However, disbursements due up to 15.01.2026 have been effected. Further, Govt. of India, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare fixes MSPs for twenty-two mandated crops, for the country as a whole and not region specific. The details of MSP for the last two years are at Annexure-I.

(d): In Kerala, 1.243 lakh quintals of certified / quality paddy seeds is available against the requirement of 1.243 lakh quintals during 2025-26. Therefore, no shortage of paddy seeds in Kerala was reported. To ensure availability of quality seeds including paddy to farmers, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India assesses the requirement and availability of seeds with States and other agencies through zonal seeds meetings organised periodically prior to each cropping seasons. Government of Kerala supplies certified paddy seeds free of cost to farmers across the State through the Registered Seed Growers Programme (RSGP), implemented as a key component of the Rice Development Scheme. To regulate the quality of seeds, the provisions are available in the Seeds Act, 1966, the Seed Rules, 1968, the Seeds (Control) Order, 1983. The above, said legislations empowered the State Governments to appoint seed inspectors to check the quality and curb the sale of spurious seeds. In case any seeds samples are found to be substandard, action is taken namely, cancelation of dealer license, seizure of the stock, issuance of warning, stop sale order and prosecution etc.

**Minimum Support Price
(Marketing Season-wise)(₹/quintal)**

Sr. No.	Commodities	KMS 2024-25	KMS 2025-26
	<u>KHARIF CROPS</u>		
1	Paddy (Common)	2300	2369
	Paddy (Grade 'A')	2320	2389
2	Jowar (Hybrid)	3371	3699
	Jowar (Maldandi)	3421	3749
3	Bajra	2625	2775
4	Ragi	4290	4886
5	Maize	2225	2400
6	Arhar	7550	8000
7	Moong	8682	8768
8	Urad	7400	7800
9	Cotton (Medium Staple)	7121	7710
	Cotton (Long Staple)	7521	8110
10	Groundnut	6783	7263
11	Sunflower Seed	7280	7721
12	Soyabean Yellow	4892	5328
13	Sesamum	9267	9846
14	Nigerseed	8717	9537
	<u>RABI CROPS</u>	RMS 2025-26	RMS 2026-27
15	Wheat	2425	2585
16	Barley	1980	2150
17	Gram	5650	5875
18	Masur	6700	7000
19	Rapeseed & mustard	5950	6200
20	Safflower	5940	6540
	<u>COMMERCIAL CROPS</u>		
		2024-25	2025-26
21	Jute	5335	5650
		2025	2026
22	Copra (milling)	11582	12027
	Copra (ball)	12100	12500
