

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 647
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 03RD FEBRUARY, 2026

CROP LOSS DUE TO PEST AND EXTREME WEATHER

647. DR. MALLU RAVI:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has received data on crop losses (in hectares and estimated value) for mango, cotton, pulses or other major crops in Nagarkurnool Parliamentary Constituency caused by pest outbreaks, unseasonal rains and wind damage in the 2024-25 and 2025-26 seasons, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of farmers affected and registered for assistance under crop loss compensation schemes like Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) or other relief funds for these losses;
- (c) the statistics on paid claims vs pending claims for this constituency over the same period; and
- (d) the steps being taken to strengthen early warning systems, pest management support and disaster relief payouts to mitigate repetitive agrarian distress?

ANSWER

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

(a): As per the National Policy on Disaster Management (NPDM), the State Government is primarily responsible for providing necessary relief measures on ground level in the wake of notified calamities. The State Governments undertake relief measures in the wake of natural calamities from funds available in the form of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) in accordance with the Government of India approved items and norms. Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), as per laid down procedure, in case of disaster of 'severe nature', which includes an assessment based on the visit of an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT). The financial assistance provided under SDRF and NDRF is by way of relief and not for compensation.

The State Government of Telangana is allocated an amount of Rs.582.40 crore (Rs.436.80 crore Central share + Rs.145.60 crore State share) for the financial year 2025-2026 under SDRF, of which the first Installment of Rs.218.40 crore, as Central share is released to the State.

The data regarding crop damage/loss caused due to hydro-meteorological disasters, is not maintained centrally. However, as reported by the State Government of Telangana, during 2024-25 and 2025-2026, Agriculture and Horticulture crops have been damaged due to Heavy rains/ Floods/ Cyclones/ Unseasonal Rains/ Hailstorms. Further, in Nagarkurnool parliamentary Constituency during 2024-25 and 2025, Agriculture and Horticulture crops

have been damaged due to Heavy rains/ Floods/Cyclones/ Unseasonal Rains/ Hailstorms in an area of 15,756 ha affecting 36,550 farmers. The State Government provides Rs.10,000/- acre for all types of crops damaged due to different Calamities.

(b) & (c): Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna (PMFBY) provides for comprehensive risk insurance against crop damage from pre-sowing to post-harvest for crops and area notified by the concerned State Government. This scheme is voluntary for States as well as farmers. All willing farmers are eligible to enroll under the scheme. Govt. of Telangana, after implementing the scheme since its inception in 2016 until Rabi 2019-20 season, opted out of it. Therefore, PMFBY is not implemented in Telangana during FY 2024-25 and FY 2025-26.

(d): The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has consistently issued timely alerts and forecasts to the public and concerned stakeholders. The Central Water Commission (CWC) is mandated to issue short-range flood forecasts with a lead time of up to 24 hours to concerned State Governments at identified locations. Timely flood forecasts are being issued when a certain threshold limit is reached.

IMD follows standard global best practice and operating procedures to deliver effective and efficient weather and climate forecasting services to the nation. The skill of the operational forecasts issued by IMD for various extreme weather and climate events is comparable to other national meteorological services of developed countries in the world.

IMD uses a state-of-the-art dissemination system to share all severe weather information and early warning with Disaster Management Authorities as well as the general public through various platforms for necessary preparedness and to support mitigation measures. IMD has adopted new techniques and technology from time to time to detect, monitor, and provide timely early warnings (for the entire country, including coastal and rural communities) for all types of extreme weather events like cyclones, floods, and heatwaves, which have devastating impacts on human lives, livelihoods, and infrastructure.

Recently, a new Central Sector Scheme, "Mission Mausam," was launched by MoES with the goal of making Bharat a "Weather-ready and climate-smart" nation.

The CWC has taken several steps by adopting various dissemination mechanisms to get maximum reach to the flood warnings, so that mitigation measures can be adopted by State Governments, SDMA, NDMA, and the public. Further, with an aim of disseminating information related to the flood situation in the country and flood forecasts up to 7 days on a real-time basis to the public through mobile phones, version 2.0 of the 'Flood Watch India' mobile application has been developed by the CWC, which provides current information on flood conditions across the country.

The Government is regularly sensitizing the farmers through its field functionaries by conducting different programmes, Trainings, meetings etc., which are being organized to farmers. The IMD/GoI regularly disseminates the Weather based Agromet advisories to the farming community well in advance to prevent the crop loss due to extreme weather conditions.

The Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) through its 47 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) across the country regularly conduct surveys and surveillance to create awareness among farmers and issue advisories accordingly for management of pests and diseases.

Various technical training programmes such as Farmer Field Schools (FFS), 2 day HRD programs, seed treatment campaigns are conducted to make the farmer aware about the safe and judicious use of pesticides. In these awareness programs farmers are being advised to use the Registration Committee approved pesticides with recommended dosage as and when required. During these training programmes, farmers are encouraged to adopt Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques such as cultural & mechanical control of pests, use bio-control agents, bio-pesticides/ bio-fertilizers and need based chemical pesticides as a last resort.

Further, one CIPMC is established at Hyderabad in Telangana state. The IPM Centre regularly conducts survey & surveillance to assess the pest situation in the state including Nagarkurnool Parliamentary Constituency and disseminates IPM knowledge through various programmes. Efforts are being taken for management of various pests & diseases of mango, cotton, pulses and other crops in the Nagarkurnool district.

On receipt of Memorandum from the State Government, an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) is constituted and deputed for an on-the-spot assessment of damage and requirement of funds for relief operations, as per the extant items and norms. The report of the IMCT is considered by the Sub Committee of National Executive Committee (SC-NEC) headed by the Secretary (Ministry of Home Affairs in case of floods etc) /Secretary (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in case of drought, pest attack, hailstorm and cold wave)). Thereafter, the High Level Committee (HLC) headed by Home Minister comprising Finance Minister, Agriculture Minister and Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog considers the request of the State Government based on the recommendations of SC-NEC. The HLC approves the quantum of additional assistance from NDRF which is made available to the State and is subject to the adjustment of the balance available in the State's SDRF.
