

(c) Government action plan towards encouraging the use of bio-fertilizers to enhance soil fertility and control the use of urea in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) and (b) Over the years, imbalanced and indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers, with little or no use of organic manures, has affected soil health and fertility in the intensively cultivated Indo-gangetic plains in the country.

(c) Under National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) use of bio-fertilizers is encouraged through trainings, field demonstrations, farmers' fairs etc. To increase availability of bio-fertilizers, financial assistance is provided for setting up new bio-fertilizer production units.

A new scheme, namely, National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility has been introduced during 2008-09 to promote soil test based balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers including urea.

Claim made under National Agriculture Insurance Scheme

†3663. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to introduce the revised National Agriculture Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of farmers covered under the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme during the last five years, State-wise; and

(d) the payment made of amount claimed under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Based on the recommendations of the Joint Group on Crop Insurance constituted by the Government, a proposal on Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) has been prepared. Modified NAIS *inter-alia* includes reduction in the unit area of insurance for major crops; improved method of calculation of threshold yield; higher indemnity level; coverage of additional risks etc.

(c) A statement indicating State-wise number of farmers covered under NAIS during the last five years is at Statement-I (*See below*).

(d) A statement showing State-wise claim amount paid under NAIS so far, is at Statement-II.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I

*State-wise farmers covered under NAIS during the last five years
(from 2004-05 to 2008-09)*

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Farmers Covered				
		Year 2004-05	Year 2005-06	Year 2006-07	Year 2007-08	Year 2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2592621	2247535	2270278	2333702	2134420
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	118	208	78	176	198
3.	Assam	21241	22535	14618	19609	35165
4.	Bihar	411576	409946	684435	913018	765401
5.	Chhattisgarh	738704	665750	729320	708590	828297
6.	Goa	643	565	544	513	393
7.	Gujarat	1068284	891075	877882	839273	841662
8.	Haryana	168583	121400	98743	140741	1788
9.	Himachal Pradesh	25529	9499	19272	13228	22293
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	4486	4501	5770	6012	1764
11.	Jharkhand	123313	828225	1262681	742089	742837
12.	Karnataka	963418	970767	1340337	636976	1288574
13.	Kerala	32549	31776	30212	33961	27953
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2132923	2176304	1859108	2215524	1845381
15.	Maharashtra	2210168	2555440	1676064	1984301	3502107
16.	Meghalaya	1504	1969	3102	1319	3225
17.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Orissa	1083404	1130061	1080217	973145	773544
19.	Puducherry	3682	4831	2824	2670	1545
20.	Rajasthan	1943030	2336993	2619180	2834649	2250815
21.	Sikkim	167	237	38	23	314
22.	Tamil Nadu	145639	119967	315371	557200	808617
23.	Tripura	1772	2651	2472	1889	4118

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1733429	1277156	1998002	2397911	2168213
25.	Uttarakhand	2882	15575	20135	33293	53793
26.	West Bengal	808484	897391	1001321	1052765	955280
GRAND TOTAL		16218149	16722357	17912004	18442577	19057697

Statement-II

*State-wise claims paid under NAIS since inception (i.e. Rabi 1999-2000)
till present season (i.e. Kharif 2009)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Claims Paid (In Lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	176246.58
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	423.18
3.	Assam	0.63
4.	Bihar	98268.59
5.	Chhattisgarh	24267.73
6.	Goa	2.25
7.	Gujarat	256171.86
8.	Haryana	3111.81
9.	Himachal Pradesh	601.32
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	10.21
11.	Jharkhand	13307.19
12.	Karnataka	139780.89
13.	Kerala	2155.83
14.	Madhya Pradesh	86050.66
15.	Maharashtra	132331.70
16.	Meghalaya	32.13
17.	Mizoram	0.00
18.	Orissa	48104.03
19.	Puducherry	178.05
20.	Rajasthan	109458.49

1	2	3
21.	Sikkim	1.28
22.	Tamil Nadu	43635.18
23.	Tripura	52.59
24.	Uttar Pradesh	65301.10
25.	Uttarakhand	1338.31
26.	West Bengal	42713.67
TOTAL		1243545.25

Suicide by farmers in Eastern Uttar Pradesh

‡3664. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of farmers have committed suicide during the past three years in Eastern Uttar Pradesh particularly in Mau, Azamgarh, Gorakhpur, Basti, Deoria, Balia, Gazipur, Jaunpur and Varanasi;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise, district-wise;

(c) whether Government is aware of the fact that the plight of farmers in these districts is very pathetic and they are on the verge of committing suicide in large numbers any time; and

(d) year-wise and district-wise details of the steps taken by Government for the farmers of Eastern Uttar Pradesh in such conditions during the past five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):

(a) to (d) The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

Central assistance for drought affected Karnataka

3665. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Karnataka State Government submitted to the Centre a Memorandum seeking Central assistance of Rs. 2019.55 crores on account of drought in the State in the year 2008; and

(b) if so, the extent to which State's request for drought relief has been accepted and by when the same is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):

(a) and (b) This was considered by the High Level Committee (HLC), headed by the

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