

agricultural produce directly to bulk-buyers, processors, exporters, bulk-retailers, etc. at remunerative price.

The price support policy for farmers, under the regime of Minimum Support Price (MSP) is recommended by Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) seeks to achieve the objective of assuring fair and remunerative prices to the farmers, annually.

(d) Government has introduced various initiatives for the development of agriculture and allied sectors. The focus of Government is primarily to increase farm income, creation of non-farm income opportunities, improvement in productivity of rainfed agriculture, increasing coverage of farming areas under protective irrigation and establishing appropriate backward and forward linkages.

Soil assessment based crop planning is being introduced. National Adaptation Fund is being set up to take care of vagaries of climate change and to develop climate resilient agriculture. Government has decided to provide institutional finance to joint farming groups of “Bhoomi Heen Kisan” through NABARD. Marketing reforms, development of scientific warehousing infrastructure including cold storages and cold-chains in the country, development of indigenous cattle breeds and promoting inland fisheries and other non-farm activities to supplement the income of farmers are some of the steps being taken by the Government.

#### **Central assistance for Odisha**

3233. SHRI KALPATARU DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Odisha had asked for central compensation/assistance for the loss of crops in the State on various occasions during the last five years;

(b) if so, the details of such an assistance provided to the State, year-wise;

(c) whether the State Government has raised certain objections relating to the discriminations shown to the people of Odisha, *vis-a-vis* other regions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, along with action plan of the Central Government to help them in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Government of Odisha is empowered to initiate appropriate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities from funds readily

available under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance for relief including input subsidy for crop loss, over and above SDRF, is provided from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) as per established procedure and extant norms, upon receipt of detailed relief memorandum from the State Government. Financial assistance from NDRF is for providing immediate relief and is not to be construed as compensation for loss/damage to crops.

Details of allocation under SDRF and releases made from NDRF to Government of Odisha during 2010-11 to 2014-15 (5 years) are given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) State-wise allocation under SDRF is decided by Thirteenth Finance Commission whereas additional central assistance is sanctioned, on a case to case basis, based on spot assessment report of Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) and recommendation of Sub Committee of National Executive Committee (SC-NEC).

#### **Statement**

*Details of allocation and releases to the State Government of Odisha from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) respectively during 2010-11 to 2014-15*

(Amount in ₹ crores)		
Year	Allocation of funds under SDRF	Release from NDRF
2010-11	391.58	560.17
2011-12	411.16	678.65
2012-13	431.72	6.19
2013-14	453.31	750.00
2014-15 (As on 5.8.2014)	475.98	—
TOTAL	2163.75	1995.01

#### **Crop insurance scheme**

3234. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any Crop Insurance Scheme to support farmers in times of drought/monsoon failure, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor;