

to be available to banks for the first year on the restructured amount. The benchmark for initiating relief measures by banks has also been reduced to 33% crop loss in line with the National Disaster Management Framework.

Further the Government undertakes procurement of wheat and paddy under its 'MSP operations'. In addition, Government implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities not covered under the Minimum Price Support Scheme on the request of State/UT Government. The MIS is implemented in order to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of bumper crop when the prices tend to fall below the economic level/cost of production. Losses, if any, incurred by the procuring agencies are shared by the Central Government and the concerned State Government on 50:50 basis (75:25 in case of North-Eastern States). Profit, if any, earned by the procuring agencies is retained by them.

Lack of irrigation facilities in Jammu and Kashmir

2248. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH MANHAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers of border and other areas of Jammu and Kashmir are facing problems of irrigation;
- (b) if so, whether Government will provide financial help to the State Government to enhance irrigation facilities, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of funds allocated to State Government for such purpose; and
- (d) whether the State Government will also contribute in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) As per available estimates, out of net sown area of 0.745 million hectare of 0.325 million hectare area is irrigated.

(b) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) has been operationalised from 1st July, 2015 with the objective of enhancing irrigation coverage and improving the delivery system at farm level. All the States and Union territories including Jammu and Kashmir are covered under the programme.

(c) The details of funds released to Jammu and Kashmir during 2015-16 and the allocation for 2016-17 under the four components of PMKSY is as under:

Sl. No.	Year	PMKSY-Allocation/Release (₹ in lakh)			
		Per Drop More Crop	Watershed Development	AIBP	Har Khet Ko Pani
1	2015-16	486.95	0	3431.00	11170.00
2	2016-17	1600.00	2559.00	*	*

*Funds are released on basis of the proposals received from State Governments.

(d) The funding pattern of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) is 90:10 for the 8 North-eastern and 3 Himalayan States including Jammu and Kashmir.

Guidelines for implementation of Crop Insurance Scheme

2249. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued any guidelines to State Governments regarding implementation of the Crop Insurance Scheme; and

(b) if so, when it was issued and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has issued the Operational Guidelines (OGs) for implementation of newly approved Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for implementation from Kharif 2016 season in the country on 23.02.2016. Operational Guidelines of restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and Pilot Unified Package Insurance Scheme (UPIS) have also been issued on 23.03.2016.

The Operational Guidelines envisaged detailed provisions of implementation of these schemes, coverage of farmers, crops and risks, seasonality discipline etc. alongwith roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders including State Governments.

Reducing cost of production in agriculture

2250. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to reduce the cost of production in agriculture and to minimise its vulnerability against climate change; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?