

**De-listing of fruits and vegetables from States' APMC Act, 1963**

2159. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Maharashtra has recently delisted fruits and vegetables from State's Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act, 1963 despite stiff opposition and strike by APMC, to protect the interests of farmers of the State;

(b) whether Government proposes to issue advisory to all States to follow the example of Maharashtra to protect the farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In order to encourage emergence of alternative marketing channels, reduce food supply chain and thereby moderate the price rise, Central Government has already issued advisories to the States that marketing of fruits and vegetables be deregulated outside the market yards while continuing regulation when traded inside the market yards, providing additional choice to the farmers to sell their produce in the mandis also.

**Performance of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**

2160. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of achievements of the Ministry in the last two years;

(b) whether presentation has been made before the Prime Minister about Ministry's last two years' achievements, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has fallen short of its targets and where it has excelled;

(d) the targets set for the coming three years and the road-map to achieve the same;

(e) the details of difficulties brought before the Prime Minister and suggestions made to overcome them; and

(f) the details of core areas the Ministry is going to focus on in the coming three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND

FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The details of the major achievements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (MoA&FW) in last two years is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) to (f) The Prime Minister's office from time to time, does monitor the progress of this Ministry for imparting guidance. There has been no shortfall in the achievements of this Ministry.

The Government considers agriculture and allied sectors as crucial to the welfare of the nation. With this in view, in the coming years, the focus of the Government will be on reducing input cost, ensuring remunerative returns to farmers and facilitating access to enhance credit as also to provide adequate compensation for crop loss.

Some of the core areas the Ministry is going to focus in coming three years are generation of Soil Health Cards under the Soil Health Card Scheme, promotion of organic farming under the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna, enhancing water use efficiency under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers through e-auction based National Agriculture Market and providing adequate compensation for crop loss to the farmers under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana and other Schemes of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries (DADF) and Department of Agriculture Research and Education (DARE).

The Government is committed to double the income of farmers in next six years. Towards this direction, an Inter-Ministerial Committee, has been constituted in the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) with a mandate to study and recommend a road map for doubling the income of the farmers by March, 2022.

***Statement-I***

*Details of major achievements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in last 2 years*

**A. Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare**

**1. Soil Health Management and Soil Health Card**

- ₹ 453.85 crore released to the States in last 2 years, which is 12 times of ₹ 36.23 crore released during 2012-13 and 2013-14.

**2. Soil Testing Labs**

- 180 Soil Testing Laboratories sanctioned during 2014-16.
- Employment potential for 30,000 samplers, 10,000 technicians created.

- Training Modules developed for Soil Samplers, Lab Assistant and Lab Analyst by Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI).
3. **Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) for Organic Farming**
- Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana, a comprehensive Centrally Sponsored Scheme launched to promote organic farming .This is being implemented on a cluster basis on 20 hectare each.
  - Against the target of 3330 clusters, 7186 clusters already have been sanctioned during 2015-16 under PKVY.
4. **Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North East Region**
- New Central sector Scheme Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North East Region launched in January, 2016
  - ₹ 112 crore released to 8 North East States during 2015-16.
5. **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)**
- A Budget allocation of ₹ 2340 crore has been allocated for micro irrigation under Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare which is about 51% more than the budget of ₹ 1550 crore in 2015-16.
6. **National Resource Management and Rainfed Farming**
- Present Government is promoting micro irrigation in the country through more financial allocation with increase in area covered.
7. **Natural Calamities**
- Significance jump in assistance under NDRF for Drought and Hailstorm.
  - ₹ 23121.55 crore released in 2014-15 and 2015-16 as against ₹ 12,516 crore released in previous 4 years, which is approximately double.
8. **Change in Disaster Relief Norms**
- Norms for assistance for all categories increased by 1.5 times.
  - The threshold for eligibility for assistance due for crop loss lowered to 33% from the earlier 50%.
  - Full MSP Payment to farmers without any deduction for procurement of defective food grains.
  - The admissibility for assistance has been raised from 1 ha to 2 ha in all cases.
  - The financial assistance paid to the farmers in the event of death increased to ₹ 4 lakh from ₹ 1.5 Lakh.

**9. Central Support under Crop Insurance Scheme**

- The total budgetary allocation has been increased from ₹ 4101 crores (2012-14) to 5580.82 crores (2014-16).

**10. Launch of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana**

- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has been approved for implementation from Kharif 2016 throughout the country after eliminating the deficiency of earlier crop Insurance Schemes to ensure adequate compensation for crop losses, lowest premium and early settlement of claims to the farmers.

**11. National Agricultural Mandi (NAM)**

- National Agriculture Market (NAM) was launched on 1st July, 2015 with an initial allocation of ₹ 200 crore, so that 585 wholesale APMC Mandis across the country through common e-platform.
- On 14 April, 2016 Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the pilot of e-NAM, the e-trading platform for the National Agriculture Market for the farmers. It was launched on 125th birth anniversary of Baba Saheb Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar

**12. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)**

- During recent two years more emphasis on protected cultivation, setting up nurseries and market Infrastructures with significant growth in all items in 2 years.

**13. Agroforestry**

- National Agroforestry Policy formulated to augment farmer's income and achieve climate resilience.
- A dedicated Scheme "National Project on Agro Forestry" to be launched with aim "HAR MEDH PAR PED".
- Budget allocation for Central share of ₹ 75 crore.

**14. Agricultural Mechanization**

- 13.59 lakh farm machineries distributed to farmers on subsidy during 2014-16.
- Allocation of funds increased by approximate 300% in 2014-16.
- More number of trainees trained at FMTTIS and State Agriculture Department under SMAM during 2014-16.
- 3033 Machinery tested at FMTTIs and Test Centres during 2014-16.

**15. Funds released to States/UT (₹ Lakhs) NeGP-A**

- ₹ 5556.27 lakh released during last 2 years to promote use of ICT for increasing farmer's access to information.
- ₹ 278.11 lakh funds released under Agrisnet during last 2 years for propagating use of ICT means for increasing farmer's access to information.

**16. Use of IT in Agriculture**

- First time Present Government launched mobile apps like Crop Insurance, Agri Market Mobile App, Kisan Suvidha and Pusa Apps to help farmers.
- Kisan Suvidha Krishi and Pusa Apps launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Agriculture Minister during Kisan Unnati Mela in March, 2016.
- These mobile Apps are used by farmers for getting information on new technology developed by Pusa, weather, crop insurance and market price etc.
- Tremendous growth (500%) in number of crop and weather advisories sent to the farmers.
- When compared to the 71.06 lakh calls answered by Kisan Call Centres (KCC) during 2012-14, the number of calls answered during 2014-16 increased to 104.76 lakh.

**17. Plant Protection**

- Sharp increase of 63% in pesticide export registration in two years of present Government in comparison to previous two years (1475 to 2412).
- The number of pesticide registration have increased about three and half times on account of better monitoring and use of technology. (15830 to 54041).

**18. National Food Security Mission (NFSM)**

- Apart from Rice, Wheat and Pulses, now Coarse Cereals, Sugarcane, Jute and Cotton have been added under NFSM.
- All States have been covered under NFSM now.
- More districts now covered under NFSM than ever before.

**19. Steps to increase production of Pulses**

- Pulses crop being encouraged in rice fallow areas under 'Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India' scheme.
- Summer moong cultivation being promoted.

- Pigeon pea on rice bunds being encouraged.
- Crop Demonstrations through more than 500 KVKs.
- 150 Seed hubs in Krishi Vigyan Kendras.
- Enhanced breeder seed production.
- Distribution of Seed Minikits.
- Bio-fertilizer and bio-agent units in State Agricultural Universities.
- Substantial increase in MSP of pulses.
- Subsidy on seed production.

**20. National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP)**

- Total 24 States have been covered under NMOOP Programme.
- 3 More States has been covered under Oil Palm Programme since 2014.

**21. National Bee Board (NBB)**

- Budget for Bee-keeping has more than doubled in 2 years of present Government as compared to previous Government. (3.17 crore to 7.15 crore).
- 16.75% increase in Honey production during the year-2015-16 over the year 2013-14.
- Additional income accruing to both Honey Beekeepers as well as Farmers'.

**22. Joint Liability Groups (JLG)**

- Against 6.7 lakh groups formed from 2007-14 (7 years) with loan amount of ₹ 6630 crores 10.49 lakh groups were formed between 2014-16 (2 years) with loan amount of ₹ 10225 crore.

**23. Agriculture Credit**

- Credit flow in Agriculture has increased from ₹ 5,75,000 crores in 2012-13 to ₹ 900000 crores in 2016-17 (Target).

**24. Kisan Credit Card**

- Total active KCCs has increased from 6.45 crores in 2012-13 to 7.43 crores in 2015-16.

**25. National Cooperative Development Corporation**

- Record 24% growth in fund disbursed to Cooperative Sector.
- An all time high release of ₹ 7113.43 crore in 2015-16 signifying a growth of 24% compared to previous year.

**26. National Seed Corporation (NSC)**

- Turnover of seed increased by 20% inspite of severe drought.
- 16% increase in seed sample tested internally. (41000 to 47674 from 2012-14 to 2014-16).
- 130 % increase in scientific storage facilities (from 73600 qtls. 2012-14 to 169000 qtls. 2015-16).
- To increase the seed production, uncultivated area was brought under cultivation.

**27. National level Krishi Unnanti Mela in Delhi**

- For the first time in country, a National Agriculture Fair “Krishi Unnanti Mela” was organized at IARI, PUSA, New Delhi from 19-21 March.

**B. Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries (DADF)****1. Dairy Development**

- First time in the country—Focus on Development and Conservation of Indigenous Bovine Breeds Under Rashtriya Gokul Mission, 14 Gokul Gram are being established.
- Focus on Development and Conservation of Indigenous Breeds in a scientific and holistic manner with manifold increase in budget allocation. Budget allocation 13 times more during last two years compared to 2012-13 and 2013-14.
- Two new National Kamdhenu Breeding Centre (one in North India-Madhya Pradesh and one in the South India-Andhra Pradesh) are being set up for which an amount of ₹ 50 crore has been released (₹ 25 crore to Madhya Pradesh and ₹ 25 crore to Andhra Pradesh).

Following Schemes has been proposed with an allocation of ₹ 850.00 over a period of next few years from 2016-17.

- **Pashudhun Sanjivni:** an animal wellness programme encompassing:
  - (i) Animal health cards (Nakul Swasthya Patra); (ii) Unique Identification number and (iii) National data base.
- **Advanced Breeding Technology:** including assisted reproductive technique improving availability of disease free female bovines.
- **Creation of E-Pashudhan Haat:** an e-market portal for bovine germplasm for connecting breeders and farmers of indigenous bovine breeds.

- **National Genomic Centre:** National Genomic Centre would be established to enhance milk production and productivity of indigenous breeds through rapid genetic upgradation.
2. **National Live Stock Insurance Scheme**
- First time all the districts and animals covered under Livestock Insurance Scheme.
  - The scope and coverage of Livestock Insurance has been increased from 300 districts to all districts and from only 2 milch animals to 5 milch animals/other animals or 50 small animals.
3. **Foot and Mouth Disease**
- FMD outbreaks recorded were 377 during the year 2013 while during the year 2015, outbreaks dropped to mere 109 which is considered to be an impressive achievement.
4. **Haemorrhagic Septicaemia Outbreaks**
- In comparison to the year 2013, HS outbreaks have been reduced significantly during the year 2014 and further reduced to 89 during the year 2015.
5. **Veterinary College increase**
- B.V.Sc. and AH qualification of 10 more Veterinary Colleges has been recognized and Nos. of colleges included in First Schedule of IVC Act, 1984 have increased to 46 from 36.
  - In order to meet the shortage of trained veterinary manpower, intake of students in various Veterinary Colleges was enhanced from 60 to 100 seats. Total number of seats has been increased to 1,334 from 914 in 17 Veterinary Colleges.
  - Consequent upon inclusion of 10 more colleges in the First Schedule of IVC Act, 1984, the B.V.Sc. qualification of 3,398 pass-out students from these colleges have been recognized.
6. **Initiatives under “Ease of Doing Business”**
- Implementation of Single Window System for on-line clearance of livestock and livestock products by all six Animal Quarantine and Certification Services Stations at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru.
  - Launch of Sanitary Import Permit (SIP) website for online receipt and processing of SIP applications for import of livestock products on 27.04.2016.



**7. Fishery Blue Revolution**

- The Fish Production increased to 209.59 lakh tonnes during 2014-15 and 2015-16 which was 186.12 lakh tonnes during 2012-13 and 2013-14.
- **Under Blue Revolution:** Integrated Development Management of Fisheries-Saving-cum-Relief amount provided to fishermen during fishing lean/ban in period of 3 months was increased:
- 2013-14: ₹ 600 per month
- 2014-15: ₹ 900 per month
- 2015-16: ₹ 1500 per month
- Annual Insurance premium for fisher folk brought down to ₹ 20.27 from ₹ 29.00.
- Insurance cover increased to ₹ 2.00 lakh from 1.00 lakh for accidental death and permanent disability.

**C. Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)****1. Agri Colleges and Universities Established**

- 4 new collages in Bundelkhand under Rani Laxmibai Central Agriculture University being established.
- 4 new collages proposed under Rajendra Central Agricultural University, Bihar.
- 6 new collages under Central Agricultural University, Imphal.
- Establishment of 2 more new universities in process; one on Agriculture in Rajasthan and another on Horticulture in Haryana.
- Converted RAU, Bihar to Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University (11.05.2016).

**2. Admission in State Agricultural Universities through ICAR (UG&PG)**

- The number of students was increased at UG and PG level to encourage higher education in agriculture.
- 17% rise in admission of students in State Agricultural Universities through ICAR, compared to 2013.
- Total, 1,69,014 students in agricultural stream across the country.

**3. Experiential Learning Units at Agricultural Universities**

- 416 Experiential Learning units in 2014-16 to provide earn-while-learn opportunity to students in agricultural universities.

- Number increased by 58% compared to 2007-13 (416 in 2014-16 as compared to 264 in 2007-13).

4. **Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav**

- ICAR Institutes and Agricultural Universities have adopted more than 10,000 villages. Teams of scientists are providing advisory and inputs to farmers on agriculture and allied enterprises.

5. **Farmer First**

- From about 100 institutes and Agricultural Universities scientists have interface with 50,000 farm families during 2015-16 and by 2016-17 about 1 lakh farm families would be covered.

6. **Pulses Demonstration**

- To meet the growing demand of pulses, large number of Frontline Demonstrations have been initiated involving 475 KVKs on major pulses. More than 60,000 demonstrations covering 22,000 ha of land were conducted during 2015-16.

7. **Oilseeds Demonstrations**

- To meet the growing demand of oilseeds, large number of frontline Demonstrations have been initiated on 300 KVKs. More than 28,000 demonstrations covering 11,000 ha of land were conducted during 2015-16. In 2016-17, 4000 youth will be involved in this scheme.

8. **Pulses Seed Hub**

- Pulses Seed Hub will be established with involvement of ICAR institutes, Agricultural Universities and KVKs in participatory mode.
- Pulses hubs will provide basic quality seeds to neighbouring farmers.
- Each hub will produce 1000 Quintals of pulses seeds.
- Initially 100 Pulses seed hubs will be established during 2016-17 and it will be enhanced to 150 during 2017-18.

9. **Awareness Campaign on Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana**

- Organized Kisan Sammelan and Exhibitions in 444 KVKs.
- Farmers across the country, Public representatives including 34 Central Ministries, 262 MPs and 23 Ministers and 168 MLAs from different States participated

10. **Soil and Water Testing Labs**

- Existing Soil and Water Testing Labs in 384 KVKs were activated.

- 400 mobile soil testing machines were provided to KVKs to support Soil Health Card Scheme

**11. Soil Health Awareness Campaign**

- On World Soil Day 604 KVKs organized farmers-scientist's interactions with participation of public representatives. Soil Health Card distributed to 2.5 lakh farmers.
- To make KVKs more efficient and effective, the Zonal Project Directorate were developed into Agricultural Technology Application and Research Institute (ATARI).
- The number was increased from 8 to 11.

**12. New Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)**

- Number of KVKs is being increased to propagate the new technologies to the farm gate.
- Two KVKs each are planned for large/hill districts.

**13. New District Contingency Plans**

- To mitigate the effect of natural calamities like drought, flood, fog, storms etc. new Contingency Plans were developed at district level, in 2014-15, 521 district, in 2015, 600 district and in 2016, 614 district have been covered.
- Crop advisories for 91 drought prone districts of different State developed.

**14. International Collaboration:** In order to lead science and technology application in agricultural development, MoU and Work Plans are signed between ICAR with other Institutions abroad.

**15. Agri-entrepreneurs Incubated**

- As a new initiatives farmers and youth were exposed to NRM Technologies and Products for encouraging entrepreneurship through business incubator.
- With growing challenges in Soil Health, Water Crises and Climate Change Impacts, concerted efforts were taken in close association with State Government Departments and other Stakeholders through 253 interface meetings.

**16. Pine Oleoresin Coated Slow Release Urea**

- Pine oleoresin coated of urea developed to Reduces loss of nitrogen and increase nitrogen use efficiency by 20%.

**17. Low Cost Portable Biochar Kiln for on Farm Crop Residue Recycling**

- Biochar produced from maize, castor, cotton, and pigeon pea stalk.
- Total carbon ranges between 51-71%.
- Application of biochar resulted in increase in yield of pigeon pea by 32%.

**18. Soil Test-kit-cum-Lab developed (Marida-Parishak)**

- A handy and inexpensive electronic moisture indicating device “Soil Moisture Indicator” developed, which is better than ‘tensiometer’.
- The device can assess the soil moisture level at different spots in the field/potted plants.
- Technology licensed for commercial production.
- Helps in planning the irrigation schedule.
- ICAR has developed flexi-check dam is an inflatable structure built across a stream for water conservation, flood control, sediment flushing and regulating flow on water. It can be occasionally deflated during flood/high runoff to flush out sediment.
- 136 Farmers Fairs specially organized for demonstration of farm machines and implements.
- India’s first nano cellulose pilot plant established at CIRCOT, Mumbai.

**19. Animal Science**

- 86 technologies relating to livestock health and management have been commercialized.
- 856 farmers exposed to different production technologies in livestock, poultry and piggery through agri-business incubation centres.
- 58000 Artificial Insemination conducted under farm and field conditions.
- Artificial Insemination Technique standardized and demonstrated under field conditions in cattle, buffalo, pig, yak, sheep, mithun and equines.

**20. Success Stories in Buffalo cloning**

**Lalima:** Female cloned buffalo calf produced from an elite murrah Buffalo.

**Rajat:** A male calf cloned from frozen semen of a highly ranked progeny-tested Murrah buffalo bull (MU-4393).

**Deepasha:** A female calf cloned from the endangered wild-buffalo found in Chhattisgarh State.

**21. New vaccines and diagnostics**

- Equiherpabort vaccine for prevention of herpes virus-1 infection in horses developed.

- Lateral flow assay for diagnosis of brucellosis developed.
  - ELISA kit for diagnosis of *Theileria equi* (a parasite) developed.
  - New indigenous vaccine developed for control and prevention of sheep pox.
22. **New Cross-bred sheep ‘AVISHAAN’** released through cross breeding.
23. Kamrupa, Narmadanidhi and Jharsim new and improved poultry variety developed.
- National Surveillance Programme on Aquatic Animal Diseases initiated in 15 States and one Union Territory covering 100 districts with involvement of 25 organisations.
  - Fuel efficient, multipurpose fishing vessel developed – FV Sagara Harita build and launched as Green Fishing System.
24. A web based Pan India Model for forecasting potato late blight.
25. **INDO-BLIGHTCAST or JHULSACAST**- A web based forecasting model (<http://cpri.ernet.in>) developed to predict the first appearance of potatoes late blight disease using daily weather data of meteorological stations.
26. **Increase in Recruitment of Scientists**
- In 2014-15 and 2015-16 recruitment of agricultural scientist was 81% in comparison to 66% of 2013-14 against vacant positions.
  - Representation of women scientists increased in Agricultural Research Service.
27. **‘riceXpert’ for Rice related Queries**
- Developed a unique and useful IT-enabled handheld Mobile App ‘riceXpert’.-to provide information to rice farmers in real time on insect, pests, nutrient, weeds, nematodes etc.
  - The app has web-based application systems which facilitates flow of information from the farmer to the farm scientist and get their instant solution.
28. **Goat Production Management Software**
- Successfully developed software on Goat Production Information System, a unique E-genetic resource system capable of handling pedigree, performance including growth, milk, reproduction, health, breeding and other management utilities. Implementation of this system will enable the nation to store information on goats of the country for better management of genetic resources and providing help to the farmers as and when required.